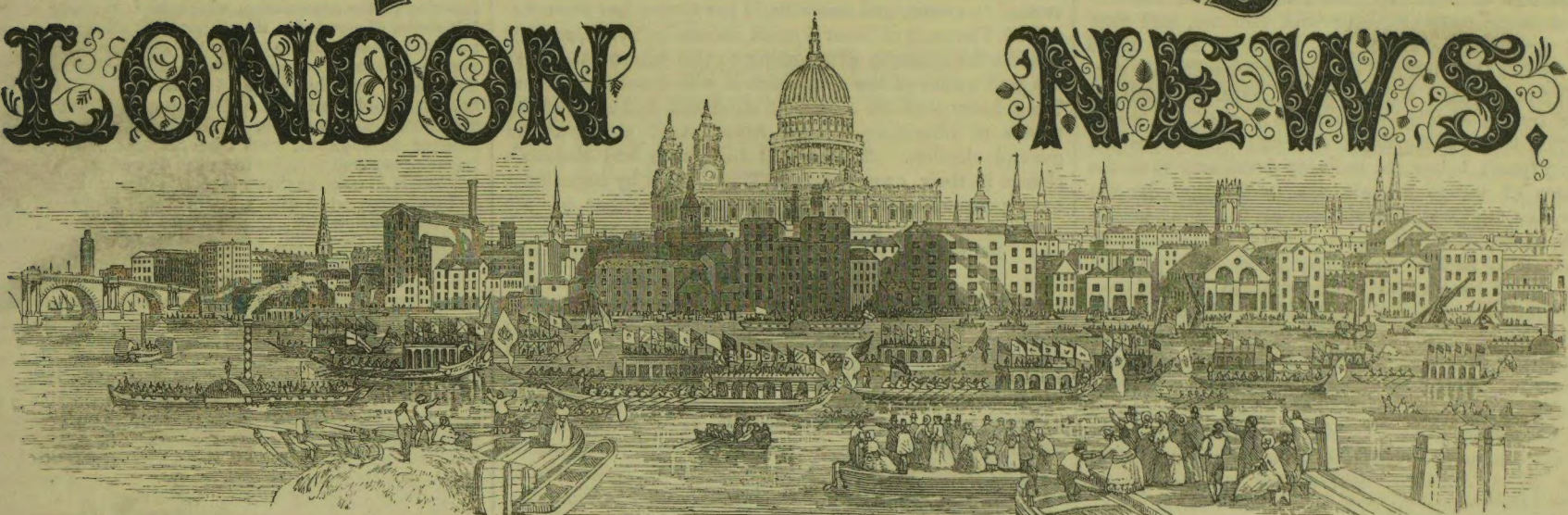


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SKETCHES IN THE BANK OF ENGLAND: A "MILLION OF MONEY!"
SEE PAGE 134.

DISSOLUTION OF THE SPANISH CORTES.

It is a most fortunate circumstance for mankind that so large a portion of their happiness rests upon the foundation of their personal character and conduct, and that political agitations, even of the intensest kind, make themselves felt to so limited an extent beneath the surface of great national communities. Naturalists tell us that the tempests which roughen the face of the ocean and torture it into a display of destructive fury are not felt many yards below its ordinary level, and that the great mass of waters beneath are undisturbed by the heavings, and swellings, and violence of the most terrific seas. So it is, for the most part, with the great bulk of any nation in relation to the political conflicts which seem to shake it to its centre. Most of those things and processes which materially affect the complexion of individual, and even social, life continue to take their habitual course under any and every form of political Government. We do not mean to say that it is a matter of indifference to a people whether the management of their public affairs be wisely or unwisely conducted. Enough has come to the light in our own times, especially within the last ten years, both in the Old and in the New World, to prove the contrary. But we do say, and we rejoice in being able to say, that the dependence of the vast majority of persons constituting a State upon the issues of the political conflicts waged within its borders is far less extensive than is commonly taken for granted.

People may comfort themselves with this assurance in looking at the present condition of Spain. There we have a community the national life of which, at the present moment, may be aptly described as convulsed by contending factions. We cannot but hope that the violent vicissitudes of political affairs which for some time past have characterised what the world sees of Spanish history leave comparatively untouched those ordinary interests with which human happiness is so largely and intimately associated. The daily business of buying and selling, of earning and spending, of marrying and giving in marriage, of intellectual and moral culture, and of shaping character in this world with a view to the next, can hardly be so imperiously swayed as men would suppose by the furious faction-fights which have engrossed the attention and the interests of political parties in the Spanish Cortes. Such passionate and headlong conflicts, however, are much to be deplored. They may not lead to all the mischiefs usually apprehended from them by people who look upon them, as we do, from a distant and disinterested position. But they cannot but be attended and followed by a great deal over which earnest patriotism must feelingly lament. Spain, it is true, is not so low down in the scale of political organisation and development as she has been. The phases of her life have altered for the better. She is passing through a stage of discipline less trying, less mortifying, less dangerous, it may be, than some she has experienced. She is just now in a state of transition from the habits, the modes of thought and action, and the pernicious influences of Royal and Ecclesiastical despotisms to a more free and rational management of her political affairs. But the traditions of many generations cling to her statesmen and her people. The former have not yet accustomed themselves to the skilful use of the instruments placed in their hands by the Constitution. The latter have not yet learned to take a real interest in the public questions they are called upon to solve. The consequence is immense confusion, the frequent straining of Constitutional maxims and practice by every party, and an entire absence of that undying faith in the true and the right which imparts to the subjects of it the patience and forbearance under temporary defeat which are, perhaps, amongst the highest attributes of a free and self-governing people.

There is but one man, apparently, in Spain who thoroughly understands and appreciates the principles of Constitutional rule—and that is King Amadeo. Hitherto, he has resolutely stood aloof from contending factions, anxious only to hold the balance impartially between them, and to guard with firm and unshrinking determination the national interests committed to his care. In every crisis, since his accession to the Throne, he has guided himself by a wise adherence to the spirit of that form of Government over which he presides. We saw it in his appointment of Senor Zorrilla to the Premiership; we saw it in the acceptance of his ill-advised resignation; we saw it in his choice, first, of Senor Melocampo, and subsequently of Senor Sagasta, as head of the Administration; and now we see it once again in the dissolution of the Cortes. Of the loyalty of the King to the conditions under which he accepted his Throne there can be no reasonable doubt. Whether in this last instance he has exercised a wise judgment may be disputed; but, in our humble opinion, he had no choice but to make a new appeal to the people of Spain.

The main—we may almost say the sole—responsibility of the critical and decisive step which has been taken rests upon Sagasta, who, yielding himself to the influence of pique, chose to resign his office on a question of form between Vice-President Herrera and the Secretaries of Congress, on which he had sustained a defeat. After brief deliberation, King Amadeo refused to accept the resignation tendered to him by his Ministers, on the ground

that it had not resulted from a Parliamentary defeat on a question of principle. Being averse to face the Assembly which had pronounced against them, they then demanded from him a decree for dissolution. To this the King was persuaded to assent, and accordingly the Cortes has been dissolved. The party of Senor Zorrilla, naturally enough, protests against the necessity of resorting to this extremity. They are well aware of the cost which it will exact from them. They know that the Administration will find and use the means of obtaining a large accession of power at the general election. They would fain have had Sagasta's chance in their own hands. They lost it by impatience over personal quarrels. Unfortunately, neither of the political parties possesses too much patriotic virtue, and it seems very doubtful whether Spain will gain any advantage from the confusion which has followed the rupture of their relations one to another. At any rate, the Cortes has been dismissed. It was probably the best course which could be taken with it. The Madrid Correspondent of the *Daily News* says with respect to it, "It did nothing good, nothing noble, nothing to deserve the thanks of the Spanish people. It wasted two months over its organisation, two over the International, three in holidays and festivals, and two in adjournments; and of the remainder of its history it presented but a miserable spectacle of petty wrangles and party struggles." Let us hope that its successor, when it meets in April, will better appreciate the work which lies before it.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Feb. 8, 1872.

My anticipations of last week concerning the denunciation of the Cobden Treaty have proved too true, for on Friday the Government was authorised by the National Assembly to denounce the commercial treaties with both England and Belgium, conformably with the conclusions of the commission appointed to report upon the question. The vote of the Chamber was prefaced by speeches from MM. Ganivet, Johnston, and Germain, who in vain demanded the postponement of the debate, the conclusions of the commission being adopted with scarcely any opposition except such as proceeded from members of the Extreme Left.

Scarcely had the question of the treaties been dismissed than another, fraught with much more interest to Parisians, and it may be said to Frenchmen generally, came on for discussion. This was none other than the return of the Assembly to Paris, proposed in two separate bills brought forward by Count Duchâtel and M. Humbert. The debate was opened by M. de Pressensé, the eminent Protestant divine, who energetically demanded the adjournment of the discussion, conformably with the desires of the Government; but his eloquent oratory proved of no avail in face of the pre-determined resolutions of the Chamber, and his and M. Bethmont's propositions for adjournment were swiftly negatived. M. Buisson, the reporter of the committee which had examined the bill, demanded that the Chamber should pronounce for itself, and denounced the premeditated absence of the Princes of the House of Orleans, whose abstention upon all important questions was becoming a political system.

M. Vautrain, the recently-elected member for Paris (whose supporters had confidently announced that his election and M. Victor Hugo's defeat would be accepted by the Assembly as a sign of repentance for past offences and a promise of future good behaviour on the part of the capital, and that his advent into the Chamber would be followed by the return of the Assembly to Paris) next ascended the tribune. His speech was solemn and convincing. Aware of the Monarchical tendencies of the majority, he cited regal precedents, and sought to prove that the Assembly had nothing to fear in the capital. While observing that the Mayors of Paris did everything in their power to combat the insurrection of March 18, the Count de Juigne, interrupting him, exclaimed, "Why, the Mayors of Paris headed the insurrection!" A tumult of applause from the Right followed, and all the deputies of the Left sprung to their feet—M. Millaud furiously gesticulating, M. Testelin springing precipitately over three benches in as many bounds, and M. Peyrat holding back Colonel Langlois by the coat-tails to prevent him doing personal injury to the Count, who qualified his statement by saying that he had never intended to allude to his colleagues of the Assembly who had been Mayors of Paris.

The debate terminated amidst the utmost confusion. M. Casimir Perier, Minister of the Interior, spoke in favour of the proposition, and M. Louis Blanc made a few observations to the same effect. When, however, the question was put to the vote it was negatived by 377 votes against 318, all the Legitimists and Bonapartists, with the exception of M. Conti among the latter, and the majority of the Orleanists, voting against it. The Duc d'Aumale and the Prince de Joinville subsequently declared that, had they been present at the sitting, they should have voted in favour of the Assembly's return to Paris. M. Casimir Perier, who felt his amour propre wounded, at once sent in his resignation, and M. Victor Lefranc has been appointed to the vacant Ministry, M. de Goulard, at present Ambassador at Rome, being named Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in his place.

At Saturday's sitting of the Assembly M. Clement Laurier, the well-known delegate of the Government of National Defence, who negotiated the notorious Morgan loan in London during the war, brought forward a financial project for the liberation of French territory, which consisted in the purchase of all the railways by the State, paying for them in rentes, and placing them in the hands of capitalists, who would advance three milliards of francs upon them. At the request of the Minister of Finances, the project was referred to the Committee of Parliamentary Initiative.

The bill brought forward by M. de Trévenuc, for conferring power upon the General Councils to legislate in the event of the National Assembly being dissolved or dispersed by violence, was considered by the Chamber on Monday. Its author introduced it in a vivacious speech, wherein he warmly stigmatised the Emperor, whom he styled Vitellius, and the Commune, which he said had prepared the way for another coup-d'état. He was followed at the tribune by M. Boyssset, a Republican deputy, who, while condemning the 2nd of December, applauded the 4th of September, which drew forth loud protests from the members of the Right. On its being retorted that on the 1st of March, at Bordeaux, they had ratified the

Revolution, the whole of the Right and the Right Centre rose from their seats, and, frantically gesticulating, shouted "Never! never!" The excitement thereupon became indescribable, and, in the midst of the tumult, M. Boyssset quitted the tribune, to be succeeded by M. Baragnon, the reporter of the commission which had recently examined the bill under discussion. He stigmatised all attempts against the national sovereignty, whether in the form of coups-d'état or popular revolutions, as crimes; and, referring to the 4th of September, said that the leaders of the Revolution would have been excusable had they immediately remitted their powers to the nation. Hereupon, M. Gambetta, who had been a calm listener throughout, rose from his seat, and, followed by his friends, prepared to retire from the Chamber. Perceiving his intention, M. Baragnon threw in an allusion "to those dictators who had endeavoured to give a maimed and disfigured Assembly to the country," which, if anything, expedited M. Gambetta's retreat. M. Castelnau, who succeeded M. Baragnon, having asserted that the Legitimist party in the Herault supported the coup-d'état, a deputy from that department bounded to the tribune, and, branding M. Castelnau as a calumniator, challenged him to produce his proofs. Hereupon Colonel Langlois precipitately left his place, and, dragging M. Castelnau with him in front of the Legitimist benches, defied the members respectively. Summoned again to support his assertion by proof, M. Castelnau said it lay in the fact that a sword of honour had been offered to the general who commanded the department during the coup-d'état. The tumult having by this time reached its height, the President closed the sitting, the Assembly dispersing in a state of extreme excitement.

Tuesday's sitting was in some degree a repetition of Monday's, the proceedings being almost as boisterous. The bill was adopted in principle by the voting of the first article; but the third, which determined the mode of electing delegations from each general council to sit in the new Chamber, and specified that the delegates of half the departments at least must be present, was thrown out by a small majority, whereupon the bill was sent back to the committee for revision. During the course of the discussion, M. de Pompery, who passes for a Legitimist deputy, demanded the proclamation of the Republic; and Colonel Langlois begged the Assembly not to create a second legislative body, or, in the course of events, one might be found sitting at Paris and the other at Versailles.

The "Roi Carotte," a satirical fairy piece, written by M. Victorien Sardou, and brought out, with music by M. Offenbach, at the Gaieté Théâtre some few weeks since, has been followed at the Vaudeville by a political comedy in five acts by the same author. The "Roi Carotte" itself contained a fair share of political allusions; but the new piece, entitled "Rabagas," is a pointed satire upon revolutions, and gave rise to positive disturbances at the earlier representations. The scene is laid at Monaco, during a period of agitation, when the reigning Prince is compelled to appoint an intriguing political lawyer named Rabagas Prime Minister. This latter, who had hitherto been a vehement Republican, becomes a prudent Conservative upon appointment, and, in a riot that ensues, charges and fires upon the people. A slight love story runs through the plot and helps to break up the rapid succession of political events. Allusions to Napoleon, to Sept. 4, and to the Commune are numerous. Rabagas himself is a palpable caricature of M. Emile Ollivier, and the Prince of Monaco of Napoleon III. There is a Polish General who combines the characteristics of both Flourens and Dombrowski, and a Minister of War who is a portrait of Marshal Leboeuf. The political demonstrations which marked the earlier representations of the piece caused the Governor of Paris to threaten to forbid its further performance, should they continue.

ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies has adjourned until the 20th inst., when the Ministerial bills will be ready.

The Carnival began in Rome on Sunday, and, for the first time, the King was present at the starting of the riderless horses in the Corso.

Italy is to be divided into seven commands, of which the seats will be at Turin, Milan, Verona, Florence, Rome, and Palermo.

A railway accident has occurred near Perugia, and among the persons injured is Madame Ristori, the famous actress.

SWITZERLAND.

The Council of the States has, by 22 votes against 18, confirmed the resolution of the National Council for centralising legislation on civil and criminal procedure. In continuing the revision of the Constitution, the Council has all but unanimously approved of the resolutions passed by the National Council on the inviolability of religious liberty, free thought, and unshackled performance of Divine service. The few amendments made are insignificant. The Council has, after a long debate, adopted, by 21 votes against 20, the resolution of the National Council in reference to the abolition of capital punishment.

NORWAY.

The Reichstag was opened yesterday week. The Speech from the Throne, which was read by Councillor Stang, by Royal command, announced that various measures would be brought forward during the Session; among them would be bills to grant supplies for new works of fortification, for improved arms, and for the establishment of technical schools in Christiana and Bergen.

AMERICA.

A telegram from the State Department at Washington, on Wednesday, represents that Lord Granville's note, transmitted through General Schenck, is friendly. The note states that, according to the understanding of the British Government, the question of indirect damages was not to be submitted to the Geneva tribunal. The note contains nothing in the nature of a threat that Great Britain will recede from the Washington Treaty. It is said that the President has declared it to be his intention to adhere to the claims made by the United States.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, Senator Edmunds introduced a resolution asking the President for information as to the threatened revocation of the treaty by England on account of the claims for indirect damages. In his speech he quoted from the protocols and the treaty, showing the right of the American Government to submit all claims to the Geneva Conference, and said if England repudiates the treaty the United States must make no more with a nation so ready to revoke them, and should prepare to vindicate its honour. If the excitement had been caused for the purpose of influencing Geneva arbitrators, the quicker we understand that the better. Senator Cameron, chairman of the Foreign Committee, desired to postpone the resolution until after seeing the Queen's Speech.

From a later telegram we learn that the Queen's Speech, owing to the moderation of its tone, has been well received in New York. The *New York Herald* has adopted a warlike tone, and thrown out a significant allusion to the Irish Americans. The *New York Tribune* considers that the steadiness of the funds is proof that the public do not feel much agitated by "newspaper clamour." The *World* thinks the indirect claims ought to be withdrawn if the British Commissioners believed they were not to be made; but that, if otherwise, they ought to be maintained.

INDIA.

We learn by a Calcutta telegram that the Government of India has suspended Mr. Deputy Commissioner Cowan, who ordered the shooting of the Kooka prisoners at Loodiana. An inquiry is being prosecuted.

Some account of the progress made by the Looshai Expedition will be found at page 134.

The British squadron arrived at Lisbon, on the 30th ult., from Cadiz.

We learn from Madrid that 2000 Spanish troops have been sent to Cuba.

Dr. Döllinger has commenced at Munich a series of lectures on "The Union of the Churches."

An Austrian mail-coach has been attacked and robbed of 13,000 fl. near Lindaro, in Istria.

A Royal decree has been issued appointing Major-General Delprat to the Ministry of War in Holland.

The Queen of Spain has sent 1000f. to the subscription for a monument to M. Sommeiller, the engineer of the Mont Cenis tunnel.

The municipality of Cologne have given the Old Catholic party permission to hold religious services in the chapel of the guildhall.

The African heroes, Oko Jumbo and Ja-Ja, are still fighting on the Andoney river, but with no definite success on either side.

M. Tchertkoff has presented his famous library (comprising upwards of 300 rare MSS. and nearly 30,000 works in various languages) to the city of Moscow.

According to General Pleasanton, who collected the tax on them, there were 1,332,246,000 cigars used in the United States last year.

The Queen has appointed Mr. Robert Burnett David Morier, O.B., her Majesty's Chargé-d'Affaires to the King of Wurtemberg, to be Chargé-d'Affaires to the King of Bavaria.

A dispute as to the ownership of the castle at Strasburg has been decided in favour of the city, whose deed of presentation to the Emperor Napoleon was not drawn up in the proper form. The city has let the building to the new University at a nominal rent.

Several packages of diamonds arrived from the Cape, on Wednesday, in the mail-steamer. The yield in the colony still continues to be large. At the fields the diggers had taken the law into their own hands and burnt down some canteens, the proprietors of which were accused of purchasing stolen diamonds from the natives.

THE TICHBORNE CASE.

Yesterday week was the fifteenth day of the Attorney-General's speech in the Tichborne case. He began by showing the claimant's ignorance of all matters relating to the college at Stonyhurst, where Roger Tichborne was educated while in England, and also on the little real knowledge of military matters which the claimant possessed.

On Monday the Attorney-General commented on a great number of statements which had been elicited in the claimant's cross-examination, and contrasted these with the facts which he would prove as having occurred in the life of Roger Tichborne. The plaintiff, in speaking of Miss Hales, of Canterbury, described her as a young lady to whom he had paid his addresses, after having broken off with Miss Doughty. But Miss Hales would be called to say the whole story was a cock-and-bull fabrication. She did not know Roger Tichborne, never saw him to her knowledge, and was certainly never engaged to him. The claimant said he never belonged to any other club than the Army and Navy, whereas Roger Tichborne was also a member of the Alfred Club, and while in London spent a considerable portion of his time there. The learned counsel then went on to speak of the "card case at Brighton," which has been more than once previously referred to, and of the circumstances attending the execution of Roger Tichborne's will. On both points he showed many inconsistencies in the claimant's evidence.

The Attorney-General, on Tuesday, first took up the evidence of Moore, Roger Tichborne's former servant; and then passed on to notice the proceedings before the Chilean Commission and in the Melipilla case.

Before the Attorney-General continued his speech on Wednesday, he called upon Mr. Holmes to produce a letter in the handwriting of the claimant, signed "Arthur Orton," and addressed to his sister Mrs. Jury. It purported to have been dated from Wagga-Wagga, but was clearly written in England, because it mentioned Stephens, whom the plaintiff never knew until he met him on board the steamer Bella, on the voyage from New-York to England. The letter, which was very brief, was produced and read. Mrs. Jury was called, but was unable to produce any other communications with the same signature. Sir John Coleridge then proceeded to correct a statement which he had made on the previous day, to the effect that Mr. Philip Rose had retired from the firm of Baxter, Rose, and Norton, the claimant's attorneys. Mr. Rose, according to a letter which he had addressed to the learned counsel, had simply withdrawn from the case. The Attorney-General then denounced in strong terms what he termed the iniquity, injustice, and groundlessness of the claim to the estates, and warned the defendant's counsel and attorneys against permitting themselves to be made accomplices of the persons engaged in the fraud. Later in the day both Serjeant Ballantine and Mr. Giffard, the claimant's leading counsel, emphatically protested against the language of the Attorney-General. The former prayed the Court to protect him from the endless insinuations of Sir John Coleridge, while Mr. Giffard declined to characterise the passages in which the head of the English Bar had charged himself and Serjeant Ballantine with being accomplices in the prosecution of a fraud. The Attorney-General, however, declined to withdraw anything which he had said, and resumed his address on the Melipilla case. The reading of the evidence taken before the Chilean commission had not concluded at the rising of the Court.

The hearing of the case was resumed on Thursday morning. The Attorney-General, in continuing his speech, reminded the jury of the object with which the evidence taken by the Chilean commission was put before them. Reference was made by the plaintiff to certain persons in Chili who knew him, and the defendant then sent out a commission and examined the whole of them, and found that they did not know Tichborne, but that they all knew a young Englishman named Orton. A mass of evidence having been given to establish these points, the Attorney-General entered minutely into matters relating to the Bella and the Osprey, striving to show that there is no foundation for the claimant's story upon this part of the case. What he has to say in reference to the wreck itself is postponed.

The further hearing of the case is adjourned until Monday next, and it is expected that the Attorney-General will finish his speech on Tuesday.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Besant, Frank, to be Vicar of Sibsey, Lincolnshire.
Brougham, M. N.; Vicar of St. Colan.
Burfield, Henry John; Incumbent of the New District of St. Mark's, Leicester.
Chaplin, Ayrton; Incumbent of Trinity Church, Stowmarket.
Clarke, W. W.; Rural Dean of Lynn.
Coen, J. C.; Vicar of Northmoor, Oxon.
Durst, J.; Rector of North Lynn and Vicar of St. Margaret and St. Nicholas.
Everett, T. M.; Minor Canon at St. George's Chapel, Windsor.
Hall, John Melland; Vicar of Sevenhampton, Gloucestershire.
Harris, W. H.; Assistant Curate of St. Albans, Manchester.
Hawke, Lord; Rural Dean of Lawress No. 2.
Humphrey, W. T.; Vicar of Eastoft, Gooles.
Hunt, E. G.; Vicar of Bampton Bush, Oxfordshire.
Jones, Lewis; Vicar of Dowlais, Glamorganshire.
Patchell, W. G.; Vicar of Tathwell, near Louth.
Penny, E. L.; Chaplain to H.M.S. Minotaur.
Robertson, Gordon; Vicar of Earl Sterndale, Derbyshire.
Rowley, W. W.; Rural Dean of Axbridge.
Smith, Rowland; Rector of Swyncombe, Oxfordshire.
Smyth, Arthur; Curate (Sole Charge) of White Lackington, Somerset.
Taylor, W. A.; Rector of Oldberrow.
Willy, Parkes; Rector of Felton, Northumberland.

Convocation met, on Wednesday morning, in the Jerusalem Chamber, which was excessively crowded.

A meeting of Bishops, Deans, and Canons was held, on Tuesday, at Lambeth Palace, at which resolutions were passed on the subject of increasing the usefulness of the cathedrals.

Yesterday week the Rev. Alfred Willis, M.A., late Vicar of St. Mark's, New Brompton, Chatham, was consecrated, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to the bishopric of Honolulu.

The late Bishop Pattenon, who was murdered by savages in the South Seas in September last, by his will, left the whole of his fortune, £12,000, to the work of Christian missions.

The parish church of St. Peter, Limsfield, was reopened, last Saturday, after undergoing a thorough restoration, carried out under the direction of J. L. Pearson, F.S.A.

A new church, in connection with St. Matthias, Stoke-Newington, was formally opened on Wednesday week. The Rev. Henry Shrimpton, M.A., late Curate of St. Matthew's, City-road, has been appointed to the incumbency.

The portrait of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, by the Hon. H. Graves, was presented to Lady Arthur Hervey, his wife, on Thursday week, at Ipswich. The presentation was made by Sir Charles Bunbury, who also presided at a déjeuner, given to his Lordship by his old parishioners.

The new church of St. Luke the Evangelist, erected at Beeston Hill, Leeds, was consecrated, on Monday, by the Bishop of Ripon. The church has been built to accommodate 700 persons, and has cost about £4500, of which £2000 has been contributed by the Leeds Church Extension Society.

The Society for Promoting the Employment of Additional Curates in the past week has received two munificent contributions of £1000 each. One of them is given by a well-known City merchant, and is in lieu of a legacy of the same amount which he had bequeathed to the society, but which he now revokes, preferring to discharge all claims of this character during his life-time.

An important part of the work of restoring Worcester Cathedral has been completed—namely, the colouring of the roof of the choir, which has been finished under the superintendence of the Messrs. Hardman. The marble and coloured stone shows in its original beauty. The roof is painted with medallions of saints and angels on an azure ground, with golden stars and early foliated scrollwork.

A large and influential meeting of the inhabitants of the diocese of Exeter was held at Exeter, last Saturday, in furtherance of the restoration of the cathedral in that city. The work has been in progress in the interior for some considerable time, and the restoration of the choir will cost £24,000 (about £18,000 of which has already been obtained), whilst the nave will cost £10,000 more; and the removal of some buildings which at present obstruct the view of the south side will cost £10,000 or £15,000 additional. At the meeting on Saturday the Mayor (Mr. Harding) presided. The Bishop, the Earl of Devon, Sir J. Duckworth, and other personages of rank and influence were present. The Bishop, in moving that it was most desirable to complete the work already begun, suggested that they should show their thankfulness for the recovery of the Prince of Wales by giving to the utmost of their power to this great and good work of the restoration of the cathedral. The motion was put and carried amid loud applause. On the motion of the High Sheriff, it was resolved that, as the exterior of the cathedral was much concealed from public view by several incongruous buildings, applications should be made to the Dean and Chapter and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to consent to their removal, and to the laying out of the surrounding grounds in an appropriate manner. Chancellor Harrington, who has subscribed £5000 towards the restoration and re-seated the nave, as well as carried out a deal of similar work at his own private cost, expressed his willingness to give up his house, an offer received with much applause. The Dean of Exeter and a number of other gentlemen also spoke in support of the object of the meeting.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

The Rev. Edward Hayes Plumpton, Rector of Pluckley, has been elected Grinfield Lecturer, in place of the late Rev. Wharton B. Marriott.

The following have been elected Fellows at Brasenose:—C. B. Heberden, B.A. (Open Scholar), Balliol; and I. S. Leadam, B.A. (Bennet Scholar), University.

H. S. Swinbank, of King's School, Canterbury, has been elected Lusby Scholar at Magdalen Hall, and E. G. Tylee, Meeke Scholar.

C. A. Whittuck and J. M. Callendar, Commoners, have been elected to Exhibitions at Oriel.

The following have been elected to the vacant Scholarships at Exeter:—F. A. Clarke, from the College School, Taunton; W. Foord, Chatham House, Ramsgate; T. A. Rogers, Christ's Hospital, London; and H. S. Skipton, Cheltenham College. No election to the Exhibition.

The trustees of the Dyke Scholarship at St. Mary Hall have elected Mr. Arthur Lloyd Macleary to the vacant scholarship.

CAMBRIDGE.

The Smith prizes have been adjudged as under:—First, R. B. Webb, B.A., St. John's, Senior Wrangler, 1872; second, H. Lamb, B.A., Trinity, Second Wrangler, 1872.

The annual commemoration of benefactors to Trinity (postponed from December last in consequence of the illness of the Prince of Wales) was celebrated yesterday week.

Dr. Bradbury, of Downing, has been appointed Linacre Lecturer in Physic at St. John's, vice Dr. Paget.

The Rev. Fenton John Anthony Hort, M.A., was elected, on Saturday, a Fellow of Emmanuel College, under a statute qualifying for election persons, although married, who may be distinguished for scholarship or science, the number of Fellows under this statute being limited to two.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Mr. R. N. Philipps, LL.B., F.S.A., has been unanimously elected Chairman of the Library Committee of the Corporation.

Mr. Sheriff Bennett has been elected without opposition to the seat on the London School Board vacated by the resignation of the Rev. William Rogers.

The Metropolitan Visiting and Relief Association, Regent-street, has received a donation of £100 from the Grocers' Company, and also one of £50 from the Goldsmiths' Company.

Mr. Lawrence Peel states that in place of the old elm-tree which has been removed from Fountain-court, Temple, half a score of plane-trees are about to be planted on that spot.

Mrs. Gladstone asks for assistance to the Newport Market Industrial School for Boys, through which, during the four years of its existence, upwards of 200 boys have passed, of whom 130 have been placed out in various ways.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, on Tuesday evening gave a banquet, in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House, to the representatives in the Court of Common Council of certain of the City wards.

The Lord Mayor presided, last Saturday evening, at the annual distribution of prizes to the 7th Surrey, or Southwark, Rifle Volunteers; and on the same evening the prizes of the 19th Surrey (Lambeth) Volunteers were presented to the successful competitors by Mrs. Labrow.

The return of metropolitan pauperism for last week states that the total number of paupers was 125,175, of whom 35,947 were in workhouses, and 89,228 received outdoor relief. The number of vagrants relieved 786, of whom 637 were men, 115 women, and 34 children under sixteen.

At an interview on Tuesday with the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Mayor and leading authorities of the city of London urged that the accommodation provided for the public at the Thanksgiving Service in St. Paul's Cathedral should be increased. Lord Sydney, yielding to the urgent representations earnestly pressed upon him, promised to reconsider the matter.

Alderman Sir Thomas Dakin, the late Lord Mayor, has given notice of his intention to propose to the Court of Common Council that, on the occasion of presenting to the Baroness Burdett-Coutts the gold casket conveying the thanks of the Corporation for her confidence in vesting Columbia Market in their hands, the honorary freedom of the city of London should be conferred upon her Ladyship.

In London 2508 births and 1423 deaths were registered last week. After making due allowance for increase of population, the births exceeded by 38, while the deaths were no less than 321 below, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The 1423 deaths included 52 from smallpox, 32 from measles, 32 from scarlet fever, 4 from diphtheria, 115 from whooping-cough, 26 from different forms of fever, and 6 from diarrhoea.

A meeting was held in Trafalgar-square, on Monday night, to protest against the anti-Republican riot at Bolton. Mr. George Odger presided. The "Marseillaise" was played by several bands, and red flags, with the Phrygian "cap of liberty," were displayed. Mr. Odger defended Sir Charles Dilke from the charge of insulting the Crown. There was some excitement, but the red flags and the Phrygian caps were safely returned to Clerkenwell and Leicester-square.

It was hoped that the trees planted on the Victoria Embankment would be spared by the public, inasmuch as these trees were placed there with no other purpose than to make the embankment more pleasant. It has, however, pleased the British public to cut and injure its own trees, and at a meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works on Friday it was decided to offer a reward of £20 for such information as will lead to the conviction of any person damaging the trees. Some of the trees, it was stated, are of great value, there being no more of the same age in this country.

At a meeting of the Chemical Society on Thursday week—Dr. Frankland, F.R.S., president, in the chair—a "Note on the Crystalline Principle of Barbadoes Aloes" was read by the author, Dr. W. A. Tilden, in which he described a new derivative of aloin. This is chloraloin, which crystallises from boiling water in yellow silky needles, bearing considerable resemblance to the corresponding bromine compound, bromaloin. Dr. C. R. A. Wright then read an elaborate paper "on the relations between the atomic hypothesis and the condensed symbolic expression of chemical facts and changes known as Dissected (structural) Formulæ," in the first part of which he showed the possibility of expressing chemical facts without reference to the atomic theory, and in the second examined how far these facts could be accounted for by the atomic hypothesis. A long and very interesting discussion ensued, in which some of the speakers advocated the employment of the atomic theory to a greater or less extent, as promoting the progress of chemical science, whilst others desired its abolition.

The report of the trustees of the Peabody charities for 1871, which has been published, states that under the first trust they have erected five groups of buildings at Spitalfields, Islington, Shadwell, Westminster, and Chelsea. These places afford accommodation, collectively, for nearly 600 families. The accrued rents and investments of this trust amount to nearly £33,000, which, added to the original fund of £150,000, makes the property of the trust amount to nearly £180,000. The expenses of management are set down at £162. The second trust of Mr. Peabody, amounting to £200,000, became available for building purposes in 1869, and £150,000 will be added to it next year. The principal work undertaken under this trust has been the erection of buildings on the Magdalen Hospital estate, which now provide accommodation for 300 families, as in the case of the first trust. Other portions of the money have been invested in land which is not yet built upon. The accrued rents and investments of the second trust make a total of £220,985. The expenses of management are set down at £238.

At a meeting of the Corporation of London, specially called by the Lord Mayor, on Thursday week, Mr. R. N. Philipps, F.S.A., moved an address of congratulation to the Queen, on the recovery of the Prince of Wales. In doing so he dwelt in eloquent terms on the anxiety and loyalty so strongly manifested by this country and the colonies, and the sympathy of foreign nations; whilst the noble and affectionate conduct and example of her Majesty during this trying period had the more endeared her to her subjects, and given the greater reason for gratitude and thankfulness, not merely that the life of the Prince had been spared, but that we happily lived as a united and a prosperous people under the benignant sway of a Monarch so deeply and loyally revered and beloved. Mr. Alderman Lawrence, M.P. for the City, seconded the motion, which was carried amid loud cheering. Alderman Sir W. A. Rose, who had been Lord Mayor at the time of the Royal marriage, very appropriately proposed a similar address to the Prince and Princess of Wales, which, having been seconded by the Chief Commoner, Mr. Heath, was likewise adopted by acclamation.



SKETCHES IN THE BANK OF ENGLAND: THE BANK PARLOUR.

THE LOOSHAI EXPEDITION.



SCENE ON THE BARAK RIVER, NEAR CACHAR.



SHANDOOS AND MROS OF THE ARAKAN FRONTIER.
SEE PAGE 134.

BIRTHS.

On Dec. 22, 1871, at Trincomalee, Ceylon, the wife of Alexander Grubb, Esq., R.A., Inspector of Warlike Stores, of a daughter.

On the 3rd inst., at Cambridge-place, Torpoint, Cornwall, the wife of W. F. Inniss, R.N., of a son, prematurely.

On Oct. 15, 1871, on board the Glenmark, the wife of F. D. S. Neave, Esq., of the Rakin Forks, Canterbury, New Zealand, of a daughter.

On the 7th inst., at 30, Hertford-street, Mayfair, the wife of H. Styleman-le-Strange, Esq., of Hunstanton Hall, Norfolk, of a daughter.

On the 21st ult., at Savannah, U.S.A., the wife of Francis Muir, Esq., of a son.

On Dec. 17, 1871, at Maple Bank, Esquimaux, Vancouver Island, the wife of Commander H. W. Mist, R.N., of H.M.S. Sparrowhawk, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 20th inst., at the parish church, Bray, in the county of Wicklow, by the Very Rev. Canon Lee, D.D., assisted by the Revs. T. Connolly and W. Patterson, Richard Mayer Wilson, Esq., of Park-place, Cheetham-hill, Manchester, to Florence Aloysia, only daughter of J. W. Seymour, Esq., late of Devonshire Lodge, Kingston, Jamaica. No cards.

On the 8th inst., at St. Saviour's Church, Pimlico, by the Rev. W. C. Kinglake, M.A., uncle of the bride, assisted by her brother, the Rev. F. C. Kinglake, Richard Lewis, barrister-at-law and secretary of the National Life-Boat Institution, to Eliza Mary, eldest daughter of the Mr. Serjeant Kinglake, M.P. for Rochester and Recorder of Bristol.

DEATHS.

On the 5th inst., at 170, Kent-road, Glasgow, after a short illness, Mary Anne Dunn, daughter of the late Rev. William Dunn, A.M., Coupar-Angus, and wife of the Rev. George Turner, LL.D., of the London Missionary Society, aged 54 years.

On the 6th inst., at 9, Lansdowne-place, Brighton, Gordon Mackenzie, Esq., of Montreal, aged 40 years and 3 months.

On the 29th ult., at Liverpool, suddenly, Elizabeth, wife of George S. Stamp, late of Newport, Monmouthshire, aged 68 years.

On the 5th inst., at Sunnyside, Hornsey-lane, Robert Faraday, son of George C. Faraday, in his 21st year.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17

SUNDAY, FEB. 11.

Quinquagesima Sunday.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. Prebendary Henry Wm. Burrows, B.D.; 3 p.m., the Right Rev. Bishop Clayton; 7 p.m., the Rev. Daniel Moore.

Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Hon. and Rev. Lord John Thynne.

St. James's, noon, the Rev. Dr. C. J. Vaughan, Master of the Temple.

Whitehall, 11 a.m., the Rev. W. F. Erskine Knollys, M.A., Rector of Saltwood; 3 p.m., the Rev. Francis Garden, M.A., Sub-Dean of the Chapel Royal.

Savoy, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., the Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Savoy and of the House of Commons.

Temple Church, 11 a.m., the Rev. T. J. Russell, Rector of St. Margaret's, Ladbroke; 3 p.m., the Rev. Alfred Ainger, M.A., Reader at the Temple.

MONDAY, FEB. 12.

Samaritan Society, annual meeting, 3 p.m.

London Institution Lecture, 4 p.m. (Professor Odling on Chemistry).

Medical Society, 8 p.m.

Russell Institution, 8 p.m. (Mr. Phillips Beavan on our Breakfast Table).

Royal Academy Lecture, 8 p.m. (Mr. Weekes on Sculpture).

Royal Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m. (Letters from Sir Samuel Baker; Captain Blakiston's Journey round the Island of Yezo).

Society of Arts, Cantor Lecture, 8 p.m. (the Rev. Arthur Rigg on Mechanism).

TUESDAY, FEB. 13.

Shrove Tuesday.

Church Association, lecture, 2.30 p.m. (the Rev. Hobart Seymour on Uncertainties of the Church of Rome).

Royal Horticultural Society, anniversary, 3 p.m.

Royal Institution Lecture, 3 p.m. (Dr. Rutherford on the Nervous System).

Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 7.30 p.m.

Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m. (Mr. Bradford Leslie on the Bridge over the Gora River, East Bengal).

Photographic Society, anniversary, 8 p.m.

University College, 6.30 p.m. (Professor Cairns on Political Economy).

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14.

Ash Wednesday. St. Valentine.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17.

	Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
1	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.5
2	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.7
3	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.9
4	4.8	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.8	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.8	5.0	4.9	5.1
5	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.3
6	5.2	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.5
7	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.7
8	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.9
9	5.8	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.1
10	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.3
11	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.5
12	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.7
13	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.9	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.9	6.6	6.8	6.7	6.9
14	6.8	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.1	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.1	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.1
15	7.0	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.3
16	7.2	7.4	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.5
17	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.7
18	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.9	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.9
19	7.8	8.0	7.8	8.0	7.9	8.1	7.8	8.0	7.9	8.1	7.8	8.0	7.9	8.1
20	8.0	8.2	8.0	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.0	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.0	8.2	8.1	8.3
21	8.2	8.4	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.4	8.3	8.5
22	8.4	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.7	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.7
23	8.6	8.8	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.9	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.9	8.6	8.8	8.7	8.9
24	8.8	9.0	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.1	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.1	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.1
25	9.0	9.2	9.0	9.2	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.2	9.1	9.3	9.0	9.2	9.1	9.3
26	9.2	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.5
27	9.4	9.6	9.4	9.6	9.5	9.7	9.4	9.6	9.5	9.7	9.4	9.6	9.5	9.7
28	9.6	9.8	9.6	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.6	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.6	9.8	9.7	9.9
29	9.8	10.0	9.8	10.0	9.9	10.1	9.8	10.0	9.9	10.1	9.8	10.0	9.9	10.1
30	10.0	10.2	10.0	10.2	10.1	10.3	10.0	10.2	10.1	10.3	10.0	10.2	10.1	10.3
31	10.2	10.4	10.2	10.4	10.3	10.5	10.2	10.4	10.3	10.5	10.2	10.4	10.3	10.5

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE

KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WINDS.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	Force.	Direction.			
Jan. 31	29.833	46.5	35.5	68	0-10	42.0	52.2	S.	455	0.00		
February 1	29.838	46.8	41.5	83	9	41.7	50.3	S. S.E.	375	0.90		
2	29.725	46.3	41.8	85	6	42.5	52.0	S. S.W.	155	0.00		
3	29.915	42.1	40.6	95	8	34.7	47.0	S. S.E.	332	0.15		
4	29.683	46.3	42.1	86	10	41.2	49.6	S. S.E.	312	0.50		
5	29.736	48.7	45.1	89	8	45.4	50.0	S. S.W.	354	0.00		

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.895	29.696	29.619	29.943	29.642	29.703
Temperature of Air	46.3	47.8	48.1	44.3	46.0	48.7
Temperature of Evaporation	43.0	44.7	46.3	43.8	44.6	47.3
Direction of Wind	S.	S.	S.W.	S.	S.S.E.	SSW.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Bateman. Every Evening, at Seven, MY TURN NEXT—Mr. George Belmore, at Eight, the New Drama, in Three Acts, by Leopold Lewis, entitled THE BELLS, adapted from "The Polish Jew," a dramatic study by Mr. Brockman-Chaitan. Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. H. Crellin, Miss G. Parnes, and Miss Fanny Heywood. To conclude with PICKWICK—Messrs. George Belmore, C. Warner, Addison, and Gaston Murray. Box-Office open daily from Ten till Five.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—On MONDAY NEXT, FEB. 12, and during the Week, at Seven, THE IRISH LION; at Eight, PYGMALION AND GALATEA—"a great and deserved success" (vide the entire press)—and Charles Mathews's Farce of UNCLE FOOZLE.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—Sole Lessee and

Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton.—MORNING PERFORMANCES Every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY (excepting Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, in lieu of which a Morning Performance will be given on Tuesday, Feb. 13), until Saturday, Feb. 24, inclusive. Doors open at a Quarter-past One, commences at a Quarter to Two. On MONDAY and during the Week (Wednesday excepted) will be performed the Grand Comic Christmas Annual, written by E. L. Blanchard, entitled TOM THUMB; or, Harlequin King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. The new and characteristic Scenery by William Beverly. The Ballets arranged and the whole of the Pantomime produced by Mr. John Cornick, under the personal supervision of Mr. F. B. Chatterton. Characters in the Evening: Messrs. Fred. Vokes, Pawdon Vokes, Brittain Wright, H. Colliard, J. Francis, H. Naylor, and Master John Manley; Misses Victoria Vokes, Jessie Vokes, Rosina Vokes, Russell, Amelia, Sylvia Hodson, Milla, Gilet (Principal Dancer), Harriet Covey. The Harlequinade will include a Double Company—F. Evans and W. H. Harvey, Clowns; Paul Herring and J. Morris, Pantaloon; W. Fawdon Vokes and Charles Harvey, Harlequins; the Misses Rosina and Jessie Vokes, Columbines. The Music composed and selected by Mr. W. C. Levy. Prices from Sixpence to Five Guineas. Doors open at Half-past Six; commence at Seven. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.

ASTLEY'S GRAND AMPHITHEATRE.—Great Equestrian Troupe. The best Riders, the most skilful Gymnasts, Acrobats, and Contortionists, and the finest performing Horses in the world. Morning Performances every Wednesday and Saturday at Two; every Evening at Seven. Prices as usual. Box-Office open from Eleven till Four, under Mr. Drysdale.

ASTLEY'S NEW ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—The BEST PANTOMIME IN LONDON. The united and undivided opinion of the entire Press. Great and glorious success of the principal artists. Miss Cicely Nott, Miss Amy Sheridan, Miss Maria Henderson, Miss Rose Wayne, Miss Emily Randall, &c.; and Messrs. J. H. Glenn, Jerry Blossom, W. Randall, Hazlewood, &c.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate. ALADDIN; or, the Wonderful Lamp. Gorgeous Pantomime. Every Evening, at Seven. Morning Performances every Monday and Thursday, at 12.30, to which Children are admitted at half price. The Slaves of the Lamp—brilliant Spectacle.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE, Argyll-street, Regent-street.—Notwithstanding the success of "Cinderella; or, the Little Glass Slipper," the number of novelties awaiting production renders its withdrawal imperative. The next week will therefore be the LAST WEEK BUT ONE OF CINDERELLA. The programme is of the most attractive nature. The brilliant Topsy-turvy Military Parade; the Lancers' Quadrille on Horseback; the riders attired in full military uniform. The Season's last drawing to a close. Order of Day Performances.—Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Open at Two, commence at 2.30. Every Evening, open at 7.15; commence at 7.45. 5s., 3s., 2s., 1s. Children under Ten half price. Box-Office open from Ten till Four.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL.—Positively the LAST WEEK—CLOSING on SATURDAY, FEB. 17. A Grand Change in the Programme of the Amusements, in which the Entire Strength of the Company will take part, concluding with the WAR IN CHINA. Two Performances Daily, Half-past Two and Half past Seven.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly.—Important Notice.—The CHRISTY MINSTRELS' PERFORMANCES will be given during the coming week in the following order.—On Monday Afternoon at Three, Monday Night at Eight; Tuesday Afternoon at Three, Tuesday Night at Eight; Ash Wednesday, no performance, either day or night; at this Hall; Thursday Night at Eight; Friday Night at Eight; Saturday Afternoon at Three, Saturday Night at Eight. Private Boxes, £1 10s., 6d., 4s., and 2s.; 2s., 1s., 6d., 4s., and 2s.; 1s., 6d., 4s., and 2s.; 6d., 4s., and 2s.; 4s., and 2s.; 2s., and 1s. Doors open for Day Performance, 2.30; Evening ditto, 7.30. No fees.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—On TUESDAY AFTERNOON the CHRISTY MINSTRELS will give an Extra Grand and Illuminated DAY PERFORMANCE in lieu of the regular one on Ash Wednesday. New and brilliant Programme.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—THERE WILL BE NO PERFORMANCE, either day or evening, by the CHRISTY MINSTRELS at this Hall on ASH WEDNESDAY, but an Extra Grand DAY PERFORMANCE will be given on TUESDAY AFTERNOON at Three instead. The Day Performances for the present week will be on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT. KING CHRISTMAS, written by J. R. Planché, with HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS, by Mr. Corney Grain, and CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME. Every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight: Morning Representations Every Thursday and Saturday, at Three.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. Admission 1s., 2s., 3s., and 5s.

MORNING BALLAD CONCERT, at ST. JAMES'S HALL, on MONDAY, FEB. 12, at Two o'clock.—Artists: Madame Sherrington, Miss Blanche Cole, and Miss Edith Wynne, Madame Patey, and Miss Alice Fairman; Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Maybrick. Pianoforte, Madame Arabella Goddard, Conductors, Mr. Sidney Naylor and Mr. J. L. Hatton. Stalls, 6s.; Family Tickets for Four, 21s.; Balcony, 3s.; Arena, 2s.; Orchestra and Gallery, 1s. Tickets to be had of Mr. Austin, St. James's Hall; Boosey and Co., Holles-street; and the usual Music-sellers.

MORNING BALLAD CONCERT.—Sherrington, Edith Wynne, Madame Patey, Arabella Goddard, and Sims Reeves.

LONDON-BALLAD CONCERTS.—NOTICE.—There will be NO CONCERT on WEDNESDAY NEXT. The Evening Concerts will be resumed on Wednesday, Feb. 28. A Morning Concert will be given on Monday Next, Feb. 12, at Two o'clock. Tickets of Boosey and Co., Holles-street.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—On ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 14, a Grand CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC will be given, under the direction of Mr. JOHN BOOSEY. Artists:—Madame Sherrington, Miss Blanche Cole, and Miss Edith Wynne; Madame Patey and Miss Enriquez; Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Maybrick, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. Mr. Henry Leslie's Choir. At the Organ—Mr. J. C. Ward. At the Pianoforte—Messrs. Sidney Naylor and Goddard. Conductor—Mr. Henry Leslie. The programme will include the finest compositions of Handel, Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Gounod. Sullivan, and Leslie. Between the Parts, the New National Song, "Long Live the Prince of Wales," will be sung by Mr. Vernon Rigby, with chorus. Private Boxes, 11s.; 2s., 3s., and 4s.; Amphitheatre, 5s.; Arena, 4s.; Balcony, two Front Rows, 4s.; Back Rows, 2s., 6d.; Admission, 1s. Tickets to be had at the Hall; and of Mr. Austin, St. James's Hall; and Boosey and Co., 23, Holles-street.

SATURDAY EVENING CONCERTS OF CLASSICAL CHAMBER MUSIC, at ST. GEORGE'S HALL. Director, Mr. Wilhelm Ganz. A series of SIX CONCERTS will take place on the following consecutive Saturday Evenings, viz.—FEB. 24, MARCH 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. At each Concert Three Concerted Pieces will be performed, and Two Vocalists will appear. Artists: Violinists—Madame Camilla Uro (from the Concerts Populaires Paderborn), Heron Josef Ludwig and Heermann; Violoncello—Mons. Pagny; Pianists—Messrs. Wilhelm Ganz, Edouard de Paris, Henseler, F. S. Southgate, and J. F. Barnett; Vocalists—Messdames Liebhart and Carola, Florence Lancia, Banks, and José Sherrington, Drasill, and Fairman, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Madame Pantham Fernandez, Madame Marie Cabell, Madame Conneau, and Miss Edith Wynne. Conductors—Messrs. Randegger, Lehner, and Gauss. Single Seats, 1s.; Subscription (transferable for the Six Concerts, One Guinea); Stalls, Numbered, Five Shillings; Balcony, Half a Crown; Admission, One Shilling. Tickets may be obtained at the principal Music-sellers, at St. George's Hall, and of the Director, Mr. Wilhelm Ganz, 15, Queen Anne-street, Cavendish-square.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL. Conductor, Sir Michael Costa.—FRIDAY, FEB. 23. HAYDN'S THIRD SERVICE, Mendelssohn's PRAISE JEHOUAH (Lauda Slon), Spohr's LAST JUDGMENT. Principal vocalists, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Milla, Drasill, Mr. Pearson, and Mr. Whitney. Tickets, 3s., 6s., and 10s., 6d., at No. 6, Exeter Hall.

DORÉ GALLERY.—GUSTAVE DORÉ, 35, New Bond-street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including TRIUMPH OF CHRISTIANITY, CHRISTIAN MARTYRS, MONASTERY, FRANCESCA DE RIMINI, TITANIA, &c. Open Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

OLD BOND-STREET GALLERY, 25, Old Bond-street. The Seventh EXHIBITION in OIL and WATER COLOURS. Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 12 and 13, are the days appointed for receiving pictures. G. F. CHESTER, Hon. Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS will CLOSE, on SATURDAY, MARCH 2, the WINTER EXHIBITION of SKETCHES and STUDIES at their Gallery, 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, 1s. ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary

there is not much wisdom in driving an adversary, as yet unprovoked, into a corner. Lord Chatham had an unforgiving frown For all who wronged us.

But modern statesmen have agreed that the age of Chatham has gone by, and therefore frowns on anachronisms. Let us hope, however, that in a short time Lord Granville may be able to say that, without premature revelation, he is justified in assuring us that the arbitration will proceed on a basis which will be satisfactory.

The resignation of the Speaker, Mr. Denison, after nearly fifteen years of office, the graceful recognition of his services, and the recommendation that they should be rewarded by the "Fountain of Honour;" the unchallenged election of his successor, Mr. Brand, heir-presumptive to the splendidly ancient peerage of Dacre (which dates back to the days of Edward II.) have been what may be called the domestic incidents of Parliamentary life. Party men have to score a great election battle as a victory to the Conservatives, Mr. Powell having, by a narrow majority, beaten Mr. Holden for the northern division of the West Riding. The late Speaker's seat has next to be the object of contest. So begins a Session which we hoped would be comparatively uneventful, and touching which we would still indulge that hope.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with the junior members of the Royal family and the children of the Prince and Princess of Wales, continues at Osborne House.

On Sunday her Majesty and Prince Leopold attended Divine service at Whippingham church. The Rev. George Prothero officiated, and administered the sacrament of the holy communion.

On Monday the Queen held a Council, at which were present the Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Kimberley, Viscount Sydney, and Mr. Secretary Bruce. Mr. Odo Russell, her Majesty's Ambassador at Berlin, and Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart., were introduced and sworn in members of the Privy Council, and took their seats at the board accordingly. Mr. Helps was Clerk of the Council. The Marquis of Ripon had an audience of the Queen.

Her Majesty, accompanied by the members of the Royal family, has taken daily walking and driving exercise in the vicinity of the Royal demesne.

The Prince of Leiningen has visited her Majesty.

Mr. Odo Russell has been on a visit to the Queen, and had an audience of her Majesty previously to his departure.

The Duchess of Sutherland left Osborne, on Saturday last, for London. Colonel G. Maude, C.B., also left Osborne.

The Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, Sir William Gull, Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby, and Mr. and Mrs. Mildmay have dined with the Queen.

Lady Churchill has succeeded Lady Waterpark as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty.

Lord Charles Fitzroy and Major-General the Hon. Arthur Hardinge, C.B., have succeeded Colonel Du Plat and Colonel Ponsonby as Equerries in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Queen has appointed the Rev. James Russell Woodford, D.D., Vicar of St. Peter's, Leeds, and Honorary Chaplain to her Majesty, to be one of the Chaplains in Ordinary to her Majesty; and the Rev. James Moorhouse, M.A., Vicar of Paddington, to be an Honorary Chaplain to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales is now sufficiently recovered to take riding as well as walking and driving exercise. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Cambridge arrived at Sandringham House yesterday (Friday) week. On the following day Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Count Gleichen, and Marquis Hamilton left, and Sir William Gull arrived, at Sandringham. On Sunday the Prince attended Divine service at Sandringham church for the first time since his illness. The Princess of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Duke of Cambridge were present. The service was choral, and Mr. Horsley's thanksgiving hymn for the recovery of his Royal Highness was sung. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow officiated. The Prince and Princess remained until the end of morning prayer, and left before the litany. The Royal visitors and Sir William Gull left Sandringham on Monday. On Tuesday the Prince and Princess received personally, for the first time, one of the numerous addresses of sympathy which have been adopted for presentation to their Royal Highnesses. The address was from the clergy and tenantry of the Sandringham estate to the Princess. A large number of persons who signed the address assembled in the grand saloon, where they were introduced to the Prince and Princess by General Sir William Knollys. The address was read by the Rev. W. Lake Onslow, and presented by one of the tenants of longest holding upon the estate. The Princess, who evinced deep emotion, made a gracious reply. The Prince afterwards expressed, in feeling terms, his thanks on behalf of the Princess. The Prince and Princess are expected to leave Sandringham to-day (Saturday) for Windsor Castle.

The Prince and Princess will accompany the Queen to St. Paul's Cathedral on the day of thanksgiving, if the state of the Prince's health permits of his undergoing the fatigue. In any case, the Princess will accompany her Majesty.

The Duke of Edinburgh presided, on Tuesday, at a meeting of the joint sub-committee of her Majesty's Commissioners, for the Exhibition of 1851, and of the provisional committee of the Royal Albert Hall, held at Kensington.

Prince Arthur arrived at Darmstadt, on Sunday, from Berlin, on a visit to Princess Louis of Hesse.

His Excellency the French Ambassador has arrived at the French Embassy, Albert-gate, from Versailles.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has been directed by the Privy Council to prepare a special form of prayer and thanksgiving to be used at the State visit to St. Paul's on the 27th inst.

The twentieth anniversary festival of the friends of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street, was celebrated, on Wednesday night, at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of Mr. John Walter, M.P. Mr. Whitford, secretary, announced that subscriptions had been tendered to the amount of £2600.

The contest for the West Riding (N. division) has resulted in the return of Mr. F. C. Powell, the Conservative candidate, by a small majority. Mr. Holden was the Liberal candidate. At Galway the Home-Rule candidate has been returned by a great majority, the numbers being—Nolan, 2500; Trench, 620.

THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

Parliament was opened by Royal Commission on Tuesday afternoon, when her Majesty's gracious Message was read as follows:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I avail myself of the opportunity afforded by your re-assembling for the discharge of your momentous duties to renew the expression of my thankfulness to the Almighty for the deliverance of my dear son, the Prince of Wales, from the most imminent danger, and of my lively recollection of the profound and universal sympathy shown by my loyal people during the period of anxiety and trial.

I purpose that on Tuesday, the 27th inst., conformably to the good and becoming usage of former days, the blessing thus received shall be acknowledged on behalf of the nation by a thanksgiving in the metropolitan cathedral. At this celebration it is my desire and hope to be present.

Directions have been given to provide the necessary accommodation for the members of the two Houses of Parliament.

The assurances of friendship which I receive from foreign Powers continue to be in all respects satisfactory. I need hardly assure you that my endeavours will at all times be steadily directed to the maintenance of these friendly relations.

The slave trade, and practices scarcely to be distinguished from slave-trading, still pursued in more than one quarter of the world, continue to attract the attention of my Government. In the South Sea Islands the name of the British Empire is even now dishonoured by the connection of some of my subjects with these nefarious practices; and in one of them the murder of an exemplary prelate has cast fresh light upon some of their baleful consequences. A bill will be presented to you for the purpose of facilitating the trial of offences of this class in Australasia; and endeavours will be made to increase in other forms the means of counteraction.

Various communications have passed between my Government and the Government of France on the subject of the Commercial Treaty concluded in 1860. From a divergence in the views respectively entertained in relation to the value of protective laws, this correspondence has not brought about any agreement to modify that important convention. On both sides, however, there has been uniformly declared an earnest desire that nothing shall occur to impair the cordiality which has long prevailed between the two nations.

Papers relating to these subjects will be laid before you.

The arbitrators appointed pursuant to the Treaty of Washington, for the purpose of amicably settling certain claims known as the Alabama claims, have held their first meeting at Geneva.

Cases have been laid before the arbitrators on behalf of each party to the treaty. In the case so submitted on behalf of the United States large claims have been included, which are understood on my part not to be within the province of the arbitrators. On this subject I have caused a friendly communication to be made to the Government of the United States.

The Emperor of Germany has undertaken to arbitrate on the San Juan Water Boundary, and the cases of the two Governments have been presented to his Imperial Majesty.

The Commission at Washington has been appointed, and is in session. The provisions of the treaty which require the consent of the Parliament of Canada wait its assembling.

Turning to domestic affairs, I have to apprise you that, with very few exceptions, Ireland has been free from serious crime. Trade in that part of the United Kingdom is active, and the advance of agricultural industry is remarkable.

I am able also to congratulate you, so far as present experience allows a judgment to be passed, upon the perceptible diminution of the number both of the graver crimes and of habitual criminals in Great Britain.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

The principal Estimates for the coming year have been prepared. They will at once be laid before you, and I trust that you will find them suitable to the circumstances of the country.

The state of the Revenue affords favourable indications of the demand for employment and the general condition of the people—indications which are corroborated by a decline of pauperism not inconsiderable.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Your attention will be invited to several measures of acknowledged national interest. Among these there will be bills for the improvement of public education in Scotland, for the regulation of mines, for the amendment of what is known as the licensing system, and in relation to the Superior Courts of Justice and Appeal.

In particular, a bill, having for its main object the establishment of secret voting, together with a measure relating to corrupt practices at Parliamentary elections, will be immediately presented to you.

Several measures of administrative improvement for Ireland will be laid before you.

There will likewise be laid before you legislative provisions, founded on the report of the Sanitary Commission.

You, my Lords and Gentlemen, will, I am confident, again apply your well-known assiduity to that work of legislation which, from the increasing exigencies of modern society, still seems to grow upon your hands. And I shall continue to rely, under Divine Providence, alike on the loyalty of my people, and on your energy and wisdom, to sustain the constant efforts of the Crown to discharge the duties, to uphold the rights, and to defend the honour of the Empire.

The Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Aberdeen, and Lord Clinton have become members of the Grampian Club.

Captain Patrick and Mr. Coles have been appointed additional inspectors of factories.

At a meeting of the Nottingham Town Council, on Monday, it was stated that the sum required to meet the outbreak of smallpox in the town was over £11,000.

With the opening of Parliament appears that well-known work of reference, "Debrett's House of Commons and the Judicial Bench," edited by Robert H. Mair.

The first sale of sea lands by the Irish Church Temporalities Commissioners took place in Dublin, last week, when the sea lands of Kilmore were purchased in trust for the Primate, for that diocese, for £13,200.

A heavy storm raged throughout the neighbourhood of Balmoral on Thursday week. Great damage was done to the ancient trees and some buildings. The rain and hail flooded the banks of the River Dee for miles round.

A new Freemasons' Hall, costing between £7000 and £8000 was opened yesterday week at Bristol. There were 400 Freemasons present at the ceremony. A banquet was held afterwards, at which the Earl of Limerick, the Provincial Grand Master, presided.

"NOTHING IN THE PAPERS."

At last there is a sensational drama, but one of a legitimate kind. Aristophanes and Beaumarchais have found a successor in Sardou. His new piece at the Vaudeville, in Paris, is not only the talk of France, but it supplies matter for column after column of eloquent large type in the leading English newspapers. Whether "Ragabab" is a triumph of construction or not is of little consequence; it is assuredly a triumph of courage. M. Sardou has not only preached a political sermon in the midst of the deadliest enemies of the politics he favours, but he has bitterly satirised the most audacious type of demagogue, and he has reserved for his very last word a scorching reproof to the nation which tolerates—nay, encourages—the demagogue. He depicts a kindly and well-intentioned monarch assailed by revolutionists; he makes the chief revolutionist a noisy hypocrite, easily bought over by Court blandishments; and, when this man falls, he declares that he will seek refuge in the only country where such men as he are successful. "Where is that?" asks the Prince. "In France," is the daring reply, on which the curtain falls. I have nothing to say to M. Sardou's Imperialism; but after what I have from time to time written as to the timid policy which cripples our own drama, and leaves it milk-and-water for babes, instead of meat for adults, I cannot withhold my expression of admiration for the dramatist who has gallantly seized the situation of the day, and has placed on the stage a wholesome satire upon quacks and dupes. No grown-up person need find excuses for "happening to look into" the Vaudeville Theatre, though he may have to find excuses for the follies and vices which M. Sardou has castigated. "Ragabab" is a dramatic event, and to my mind a gratifying event.

Parliament being again present to our need, it is to be hoped that a few hours may be spared to dealing with the abuse so well exposed the other day by a gentleman named Goetz, whose testimony against the jury system can be confirmed by hundreds of other victims. He, being away from London, was summoned on a jury. His wife, like a lady of business, at once wrote to the proper official stating that her husband was out of reach. But no notice was taken of her letter; and one morning a couple of bailiffs enter Mr. Goetz's house, and demand payment of £10, in default of which he was to be arrested. With a courtesy like that of their brother officers in "The Good-Natured Man," the bailiffs accepted a cheque for the money, and Mr. Goetz was allowed to eat his breakfast by his own fireside. Having, I trust, enjoyed his repast, he set forth his grievance in a capital letter to the *Times*. One does not want to use big words needlessly; but this story, put into what we call historical language, with "tyranny," "exaction," "British freedom," and the like, discreetly employed, would read in a very ugly way; and, moreover, the fact that any of us may be so treated, and that a great many of us are, are two very ugly facts. Will not a Parliamentary lawyer look to the matter, and win himself gratitude and reputation?

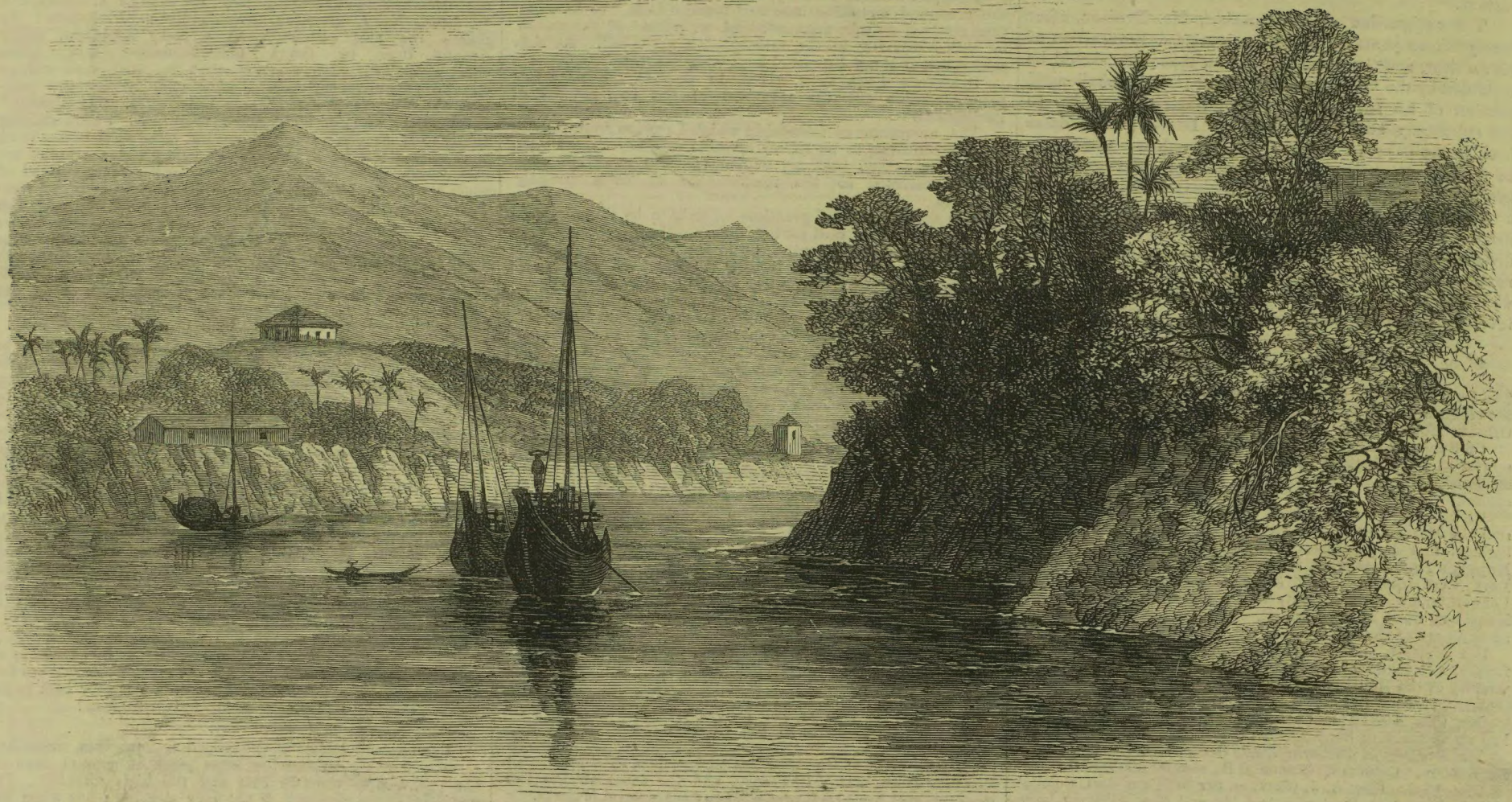
Has anybody looked at the Brighton Aquarium, or rather, at what is being done on the large piece of ground between the pathway to the Old Pier and the high Parade? The prospect, at the moment, is not very striking; but when one comes to examine and to understand things, it is clear that Brighton is acquiring a new feature, and one which will be very attractive—in fact, the Aquarium will be an institution. The place is not to be a mere exhibition of marine creatures, but is also to be a sort of *établissement*, with a promenade, a *salon*, a conservatory, and a restaurant. When visitors have enlarged their minds by study of the octopus and his friends, and have refreshed their bodies with ices and liqueurs, they may take their seats in a verandah facing the sea, and, undisturbed, inhale the breezes, or improve them with the cigar. Bands of music will also be thought by some people an advantage. This kind of retreat is a good deal wanted at Brighton, and I have no doubt that the experiment will be successful. A certain amount of care must be taken to prevent irregularities on the part of excursionists, the admission fee should not be too low, and subscription should be encouraged as much as possible. By-the-way, people who "used to know Brighton" may like to be told that the old lodge, at which we used to pay our twopences when George IV. was King, has been swept away among the improvements, and you now walk unchallenged to the pier itself. The shops on this seem to me to contain the same things that were there forty years ago—only nobody now offers to take your likeness in *silhouette*, by passing a pencil over your nose and producing something to excite unseemly gibe and ridicule on the part of your elder relations. Now, when will the Brighton Railway give us a terminus in a pleasant quarter of the town, instead of at the top of a steep and squalid street?

What was Canning's verse, in which the Minister expounded a Cabinet decision, and made stupid old fogies talk of "sad levity?"

In matters of commerce the fault of the Dutch
Is giving too little, and asking too much.
So we'll clap on Dutch vessels a twenty per cent,
Twenty per cent,
Twenty per cent,
Twenty per cent,
Nous frapperons Falck with twenty per cent.

I quote from old memory—is there a line wanting, another rhyme?—I presume that it is not in this style that any member of the present Cabinet informed his subordinates that the Dutch have given up to us all their settlements on the Guinea coast, and that there is now only one flag from the Gambia river to Lagos (Liberia is excepted, it seems—the place where George went—vide "Uncle Tom's Cabin") and that we give the Dutch the right to do what they like in Sumatra, where we have hitherto restricted their advance. Certain Dutchmen seem to be much exercised about these arrangements, but they appear fair enough. The Dutch, moreover, must be doing us very good service in another way, for the Australian telegraph wire, when it leaves Singapore, is taken through Java, and so on to Port Darwin, in North Australia. We are only waiting for the colonists to lay the wires from the south to the north, and then we shall have Melbourne news every morning. The Puck quotation will be dreadfully hardworked about May next.

I think it may have been remarked once or twice that we live in strange times. Still, as a lady would retort in argument, a thing is not the less true for being said over and over again. In what previous period of our history would the leading journal of England have issued an important article (evidently by a "hand of power"), beginning thus—"The Duke of Somerset has come before the world to state the ground upon which he rejects Christianity, in every recognised acceptance of the term." Into the singular question thus raised of course I do not enter. His Grace of Somerset is not the first duke who has not been a Christian, as their graces of Sihon and Edom and the dukes of the sons of Esau were clearly not of that faith. But such an announcement in regard to a member of the House of Lords is something new in history.



THE LOOSHAI EXPEDITION: FORT AND TEA GARDENS, NEAR CACHAR



BALMADIE'S CINCHONA PLANTATION NEAR DOLACAMUND, MADRAS PRESIDENCY.



A SCENE IN LEICESTER-SQUARE.

KING GEORGE'S HORSE.

The bronze statue of King George II., which used to sit upon its horse in the centre of Leicester-square, could not long hold its head up before the public after being hidden some years in the building erected by Mr. Wyld for his geographical panorama, usually called "the Great Globe." When the statue was removed, having suffered too much ill-usage and some positive mutilation, the effigy of the horse remained, and became the target of frequent stone-throwing practised by the idle boys of Newport-market and its neighbourhood. Any one of the French refugees, enthusiastically disposed to hail the advent of the Universal Democratic Republic, who lounged beside the railings of the inclosure, might have watched this pastime of the *gamins de Londres* with peculiar interest, if he had mistaken it for a token of active hostility to the ancient institution of Royalty in Great Britain. But he would soon have been undeceived by the testimony of the next Englishman grown to the age of discretion whom he might consult as to the meaning of the juvenile frolic. "Lord bless you, Mounseer! it's only for a lark they does it!" Neither Sir Charles Dilke nor Mr. Odger was concerned in this attack on the Hanoverian dynasty.

INDIAN CINCHONA PLANTATIONS.

The South American tree, whose bark contains a peculiar alkaloid most efficacious as a remedy for intermittent fevers and agues, was to be found, until lately, nowhere but in the region of its first discovery, on the slopes of the Andes. The Spanish name of cinchona (now more commonly written quinine) was bestowed upon it by Linnaeus to commemorate the happy cure it had wrought, in 1638, upon the Countess of Chinchona, the lady of a Governor or Judge in Peru; and when she brought some of the bark to Europe it was frequently called "The Countess's bark." It is well known that the Jesuit missionaries, in the seventeenth century, took great pains not only to promote in South America the collection of this valuable ingredient of medicine, but also to spread the knowledge of its healing use in different countries of Europe. Some twelve or thirteen years ago, the supplies of bark having been found inadequate to the demand, and a large quantity being wanted for the British Army hospitals, in India and at other tropical stations, it was resolved to try the cultivation of the cinchona in India. Mr. Clements Markham was therefore sent to Peru, by the Secretary of State for India, to obtain plants and seeds of the best varieties; and he subsequently went to different parts of India and Ceylon to superintend the sowing and planting. He has described his observations, and his experiments and methods of proceeding in an interesting volume published by Mr. Murray at the end of 1862. The operations he undertook were perfectly successful. The first sowings of imported seed were commenced by Mr. W. G. M'IVOR, in February, 1860, at Neddiwuttum and Dodabetta, on the Neilgherry Hills. The plant was afterwards propagated by layers, and its cultivation has since extended to many districts of India, so that it becomes a profitable commodity of export trade. Our Illustration gives a view of the cinchona plantation at Dolacamund, in the Madras Presidency. The plant grows to a good size in favourable soils; its bark is fit for gathering in the eighth year of its growth. It has leaves of a lanceolate form, and of a shining bright green colour, sometimes marked with crimson veins; the flowers, which hang down in clusters like those of the lilac, are of a delicate roseate hue and of delicious fragrance; but in some varieties there is a white flower.

THE LOOSHAI EXPEDITION.

On the north-eastern border of India, towards the independent kingdom of Burmah, not much above 300 miles distant from Calcutta, due east, across the head of the Bay of Bengal, is the scene of our present little war against the Looshais, or Looswais, as they are sometimes called. This name is a word used by the Burmese to denote in general all the predatory tribes inhabiting the hill country outside the British frontier, between Cachar and Manipoora on the north, Hill Tipparah and Chittagong on the west, and Burmah proper on the east. To the south, between the Looshais and the British province of Aracan, are a group of tribes more nearly allied to the Burmese, and designated, therefore, each by a separate name, such as Kamie, Mro, Chin, and Shan-doo. A large portion of the Kamie, Mro, and Chin, or Hkin tribes are under British rule, and have been described by Captain Lewin in his "Wild Races of South-Eastern India;" but the Shan-doo are almost as little known as the Looshais, and often join them in their raids, though at other times hostile to the Looshais. Though the dialects of the above-mentioned tribes vary much, and are unintelligible to the Burmese and to each other, they are undoubtedly of the Mran-ma, or Burmese stock, whereas, so far as we know, the Looshais do not show any affinity to it. Mran-ma, now pronounced Bah-ma, is the classical name of the Burmese; and the affix "ma" evidently points out that they are the chief or parent branch of the Mran race, which, starting from Thibet, or thereabouts, crossed the hills near the sources of the Irrawaddy and its affluent, the Manipoora river. They settled in Burmah, and afterwards became split up into various tribes, many of which, from isolation, have changed their dialects, while the Burmese language was fixed by the art of writing, introduced by the Buddhist missionaries about A.D. 400. We are indebted for these remarks to an esteemed correspondent, Mr. R. F. St. A. St. John, Assistant Commissioner of British Burmah and Superintendent of the Hill Tribes. He has also furnished the sketch from which our Illustration is drawn. It represents two Shan-doo, with a Mro and his wife and child, taking home a gayal, or mountain ox. They have encamped for the night on a sandbank near the river. The Mro is in the centre, and may be known by his small dark blue waist-cloth; while the Shan-doo wear a longer and broader white one, with dark ends hanging down before and behind. One of the Shan-doo has a shield of buffalo-hide. Another sketch by the same hand shows a Kamie woman who has come down the stream for water. Her dress is only a short waist-cloth; but the Shan-doo and Chin women have, in addition, a short smock over their shoulders.

The Looshai tribes have lately been making frequent raids on the tea plantations of Cachar and Sylhet, in the British territory. At the beginning of last year they attacked the house of Mr. Winchester, a tea planter, killed him, and carried off his little daughter, a child ten or eleven years of age, with another of his family. We are glad to learn that the girl has just been restored to her friends, being given up by her captors since the military expedition went forward into the hill country. The expedition, which has been preceded by a surveying party, consists of a force of 4000 men, all native Indian troops, with two companies of Bengal Sappers and Miners. It is divided into two columns, one of which, in the north, being the left wing, under General Bouchier, advances eastward from Cachar; while the other, under General Brownlow, occupying the right-hand place, marches inland from Chittagong, a place on the seacoast opposite the mouths

of the Ganges. We have news from Cachar to last week, by telegram from Calcutta. There had been a little fighting, and several villages of the Sylhoo tribe, in the mountains, had been destroyed by our troops. Two or three of our men were killed or wounded in each skirmish. The Looshais retired into the thick jungle or up the steep hills faster than they could be pursued. Our worst trouble appears to be the loss of coolies by cholera, for which the Bengal Government is held responsible, 800 having been embarked, without medical oversight, on two river flats, unsuited for the accommodation of more than half the number. The original estimate of £100,000 as the cost of the expedition has already grown into one of £200,000 or £250,000.

Two sketches by Mr. R. G. Woodthorpe, which have been communicated to us, show the scenery of the Barak river, near Cachar, and the kind of boats, peculiar to that country, used to bring up the troops from Chatiack, above which place the Government steamers could not float. These boats are roofed with matting from the stern to within a third of their length from the bows. The steersman is posted on a scaffold above the roof at the stern. The boat is usually towed against the stream by the crew hauling away on the bank, while a man at the bows, with a long bamboo, keeps it off the shore. In rounding a point the whole crew sometimes get aboard, and push or punt the boat round, after which they rush through the water to the bank, and begin towing again. The great height of the banks in most places above the water during the dry season necessitates a very tall mast, to which the towing-rope is fastened. The boatmen generally wear a sort of umbrella hat, made of dried leaves ingeniously fastened to a framework of reeds, and held on by strings under the chin. This is very like the fashionable seaside hats for ladies in Europe. The scene represented in the sketch is on the Barak river, about four miles from Cachar. The tea-gardens and bungalows of Machimpa are visible on the far bank, and the Naga and Jyarleah Hills in the distance.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

This great national institution is one eminently characteristic of our country, and particularly of the city of London; for it is the grandest example of that intimate alliance and mutual confidence between the Government of the State and powerful joint-stock associations of proprietary interests, from which our Indian and colonial empire, our enormous foreign trade, and the construction of our railways and telegraphs have mainly proceeded, and the reciprocal influence of which in no small degree has contributed to the political stability of this ancient realm.

The modern practice of banking is considered to have begun in England about two hundred years ago—that is to say, the practice of receiving deposits of money, for the profitable use of which, in loans or credits granted elsewhere, the bankers could afford to pay interest. The lending of money upon interest, in spite of the laws against usury, had been carried on by the Jews till their expulsion, in the reign of Edward I., and afterwards by the Lombard merchants in London. A regular bank had existed at Venice since the end of the twelfth century; but in this country it was only the occasional resource of mercantile corporations, such as the Turkey merchants or the Goldsmiths' Company, to undertake the custody of treasure lodged with them by the Crown or by private owners, and to lend it for their own profit. During the civil wars of the seventeenth century, when personal property was much exposed to plunder or confiscation, the Goldsmiths' company received in this way not only the gold and silver plate of many country gentlemen but the rents of their estates, for which they allowed interest at the rate of fourpence a day for every £100. With the money so obtained the Goldsmiths' Company discounted bills and made advances to the Crown on the security of the taxes; they issued receipts for the sums placed in their hands, and these receipts or deposit notes, passing from hand to hand, became a virtual paper currency.

A member of the Goldsmiths' Company, Mr. Francis Child, of Temple-bar, set up the first banking-house in England at the beginning of Charles II.'s reign. He used to pay 6 per cent on deposits, and to charge the King 10, 20, or 30 per cent for loans, as the needs of his Royal debtor grew more urgent. The other goldsmiths of London followed such a gainful example; and the Crown debt to these money-dealers amounted to £1,300,000, when the unprincipled King, by the advice of the Cabal Ministry, suddenly refused payment, shutting up the Exchequer, upon which the bankers had obtained orders as security for what they had advanced. Much distress was caused by this shameful act of repudiation, since the bankers were unable to restore that which their clients had intrusted to them. So much indignation was aroused by it that the King was forced to settle their claim by the payment of interest, at the rate of 6 per cent, for the amount he owed to the bankers. The principal, however, was not repaid, and this became the nucleus of the National Debt, the interest being reduced to 3 per cent, and fixed as a permanent charge, in the reign of William III.

Among the earliest private banking houses, after that of Child, whose books go back to 1620, were Hoare's, dating from 1680, and Snow's, from 1685. Proposals for a National Bank of Credit were by this time under discussion. A small joint-stock company set up a bank at Devonshire House, in Bishopsgate-street, to make advances to tradesmen and manufacturers, on the security of goods. But it was in 1694, by the efforts of William Paterson, that ingenious and adventurous Scotchman who afterwards made a disastrous attempt to colonise the Isthmus of Darien, that King William III. and his Parliament were induced to sanction the establishment of the Bank of England. It was a corporation of shareholders, with a capital of £1,200,000, and borrowing power for £300,000 more; the whole of which money they were to lend to Government at 8 per cent interest, and to receive £4000 per year for management. The first Deputy-Governor was Mr. Michael Godfrey, with twenty-four directors, and a staff of fifty-four secretaries and clerks. They did business in Mercers' Hall, and afterwards in Grocers' Hall; but poor Godfrey, having accompanied King William to the wars in Flanders, was accidentally killed by a cannon-ball in the siege trenches at Namur.

The new institution, though opposed by the Goldsmiths and others, who started a Land Bank to compete with it, was so ably and steadily conducted, and rendered such good service to the Government, that it was enabled to overcome every obstacle. Its charter was again and again renewed, its capital was allowed to be doubled, and it was authorised to issue bank-notes payable on demand, which, in default of the Bank, were to be paid by the Exchequer out of the first money due from the Crown to the Bank. Other privileges were granted, the result of which was that the Bank of England quickly rose to prosperity; while its operations, discounting bills at 4 per cent, soon effected a general reduction of the interest on money, and benefited the trading classes.

The political crisis at the death of Queen Anne, and the convulsion of the money market by the sudden inflation and

speedy bursting of the South Sea Company bubble, only proved the soundness of this concern; and its capital was further augmented by successive arrangements for the public convenience, till it attained the sum of nine millions in 1722, a reserve fund, or rest, being then created, to prevent excessive fluctuations of the rate of interest. Ten or twelve years later the first building for the hall and offices of the Bank of England was erected in Threadneedle-street, on the site of the house and garden of Sir John Houblon, who had been the first Governor of the Bank of England. In this place, we are told, business was commenced on June 5, 1734, and the marble statue of William III., as founder of the Bank, was set upon its pedestal next New-Year's Day.

The history of the Bank of England has been related by Mr. John Francis, in a very interesting book, to which our readers may gladly turn from this hasty and scanty notice of its chief events. They will observe how efficient an ally it has proved to the cause of loyalty and civil order, and how willingly it has been supported both by the Government and by the citizens of London, as well as by other persons of wealth and social influence, in maintaining the monetary credit of this country at periods of alarm and danger. The Sacheverell riots in Queen Anne's time, the Jacobite rebellions of 1715 and 1745, the Gordon riots of 1780, and the wars of the French Revolution and Empire, brought trying experiences and perils of different kinds to the Bank, which it was happily able to withstand. The rioters of 1780, a horde of ruffians taking advantage of the Anti-Popery excitement caused by Lord George Gordon's mad speeches, attacked the Bank for the purpose of pillage, but were dispersed by the fire of the soldiers, with some killed and wounded.

The Bank has more frequently been exposed to the risk of inability to meet the frantic runs for cash in times of panic, whether occasioned by political or by commercial disasters. Many persons among us can well remember the last instance of the former character—that which occurred in 1832, after the rejection of the Reform Bill by the House of Lords, when the Duke of Wellington was expected to form a Tory Ministry. "To stop the Duke, go for gold," was the advice placarded on the walls in every street in London; and the artificial demand so wantonly created, with the apparent chances of an insurrection and civil war, frightened many people, but not the Bank directors, who coolly paid £1,500,000 over the counter in a few days.

There are more serious trials of strength, and severer tests of its policy and of the firmness of its constitution, which the Bank has undergone from great shocks and disturbances of the money market, even within the last four years. Another important part of its history is that relating to the changes from time to time made by the Legislature, at the periodical renewals of the Bank Charter, in the regulations for carrying on its business; more especially that effected by Sir Robert Peel's Government, in 1844, which compelled the Bank entirely to separate from the banking department that of the issue of notes, thenceforth a monopoly of this establishment, with but a temporary grant to others of the same privilege; while the circulation of notes on securities lodged with the issue department, including the amount due from the Treasury, was restricted to £14,000,000. We cannot here enter into these subjects. The frauds, conspiracies, and forgeries which have in different ways been attempted to the injury of the Bank, as well as the mischievous results of wild speculation and subsequent panics, fill a chapter in the social history of England. The forgeries of Fauntleroy alone caused the Bank a loss of £360,000.

The original building in Threadneedle-street, built from 1732 to 1734, was much enlarged in 1770, and again in 1786, under the direction of the architect at that time, Sir Robert Taylor, who adorned the front with a pediment supported by Corinthian pillars. Sir John Soane became architect of the Bank in 1788, and it was mainly rebuilt from his designs as we now see it. The site was enlarged by adding that of the old church and churchyard of St. Christopher-le-Stocks, and other adjacent premises. It occupies now a space of more than three acres, bounded by four streets—Threadneedle-street on the south side, Lothbury on the north, Princes-street on the west, and Bartholomew-lane on the east. As the buildings are one-storied, and have no external windows, their aspect is rather dull; but some parts of the interior present imposing features of the classical style, copied from specimens of Grecian architecture at Rome. The Rotunda, where the dividends on Bank Stock and Government Consols are paid half-yearly, has a dome 57 ft. in diameter. The Bank Parlour, in which the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors hold their meetings, is shown in one of our Illustrations. It is a handsome room, 60 ft. long by 31 ft. 6 in. wide, the east and west sides of which are adorned with double columns, supporting fine arches, while the south side has large Venetian windows overlooking a garden, which was formerly the churchyard of St. Christopher's; on the north side of this room is an exquisitely carved marble chimney-piece.

We shall give some more Illustrations of the Bank of England next week, with a further account of its management. The Bullion Office and its mighty vaults, containing so many millions sterling in gold and silver; the Weighing Office, and the Bank-note Printing Office are peculiar to this establishment. It is well known that the bank-notes, on their return from circulation, are cancelled as soon as they come back, and new ones are issued to supply the currency. The cancelled notes, to a certain amount, are kept for reference if need should arise; and visitors may be permitted to see, or perhaps to handle, a bundle of thin paper once representing an awful sum of money. This is the incident shown in a sketch engraved for our front page.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland was entertained at the Dublin Mansion House, on Tuesday evening, and met with a warm reception. In responding to the toast of "Prosperity to Ireland," he compared the present state of the country with that of former years, and pointed out the signs of order and contentment and of increased prosperity.

A fully-attended meeting of the Birmingham Town Council was held on Tuesday, at which the precept of the school board was presented, making a demand for £4000. As a portion of this amount was to be devoted to the payment of fees in denominational schools, Alderman Manton moved, and Alderman Charles Sturge seconded, a motion that the precept be not complied with. An animated discussion terminated in the rejection of the school board application by a majority of 42 to 12.

Mr. Fowler writes from Cairo respecting the Channel ferry scheme, which he contends would create new and very large sources of traffic. He states that for the scheme of through communication the capital would be readily found, as the two essential conditions for capitalists and investors are complied with—viz., a thorough and complete work, and a satisfactory basis for calculating upon a fair return upon the capital invested. With regard to the practicability of through communication, no person, he says, with the slightest claim to give an opinion has ever expressed a doubt on the subject.

MUSIC.

Another birthday anniversary was celebrated at last Saturday's Crystal Palace Concert. As already recorded, the programme of Jan. 27 was made partly tributary to the memory of Mozart, who was born on that date, in the year 1767; and a similar coincidence with reference to Mendelssohn having presented itself in association with last week's concert, that was also rendered a celebration by the selection of several of the composer's works for the first portion of the performances. The concert began with the overture to "St. Paul," his first sacred work on a grand scale, produced in 1835, and scarcely surpassed in elevation and solemnity by his "Elijah." The airs from "St. Paul," "O God have mercy" and "Jerusalem," were effectively sung—the first by Mr. Whitney, an American with a very powerful bass voice; the other, by Miss Katherine Poyntz, a young lady who is deservedly progressing in public favour as a meritorious soprano singer. The hymn "Hear my prayer" closed the tributary selection from Mendelssohn. This was given in its altered shape, as scored by the composer, with the addition of orchestral accompaniments, instead of merely with the support of the organ, as originally written in 1844. Madame Cora de Wilhorst sang the important soprano solos with more power than expression, and the same may be said of the chorus-singing of the Crystal Palace choir. The central piece of Saturday's programme was Beethoven's fifth symphony, that in C minor, which, in some portions, will bear comparison, for elevation and grandeur, with the composer's subsequent works; and, in others, for tenderness and beauty, with those of his earlier period. The performance was worthy of the music, and of the Crystal Palace band and its conductor, Mr. Manns. The symphony was followed by the cavatina "Casta Diva," from "Norma," sung by Madame Cora de Wilhorst in a manner that called forth vehement applause. After this came a clever and characteristic ballet scene—from Mr. C. Deffell's opera "The Corsair"—in which are some effective combinations of orchestral dance-music and choral writing. A selection from Beethoven's music to Kotzebue's drama, "The Ruins of Athens," and Sir Julius Benedict's skilfully-instrumented overture, "Der Prinz von Homburg," concluded an interesting concert. Of the last-named piece we have more than once spoken—first on its production at the Norwich Festival of 1869, and afterwards on its repetition in London.

This week's Monday Popular Concert brought back Madame Schumann, whose return, like that of Herr Joachim, has for several years constituted one of the chief events of our musical year. The performances of the great pianist were in Beethoven's solo sonata in A, op. 101, and in her late husband's quintet with stringed instruments, one of the finest productions of his best period. The earnest and intellectual interpretation of these works by Madame Schumann again displayed those admirable qualities that have before been commented on in reference to the same pieces. The reception of the player by a crowded audience afforded strong and gratifying proofs of the general recognition of her exceptional merits. The stringed instrument portions of the quintet were excellently played by Herr Straus, Mr. L. Ries, Mr. Zerbini, and Signor Piatti, who were also associated in Haydn's quartet in G minor, from op. 74, and Mendelssohn's posthumous "Andante and scherzo." Mr. Maybrick was the vocalist and Mr. Zerbini the accompanist.

The fifth of the present series of Oratorio Concerts took place on Tuesday evening, when Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang" ("Hymn of Praise") and Rossini's "Stabat Mater" were performed; the very opposite styles of these masterpieces offering a strong and interesting contrast between the Protestant music of the German school and that of the Catholic service and Italian nationality. The three fine orchestral movements with which Mendelssohn's noble work commences were very effectively given by the capital orchestra engaged for these concerts; and the chorus-singing, both in the hymn and in the "Stabat," was again of that high order that has long been the characteristic of Mr. Barnby's choir. The vocal solos were, generally, well sung, notwithstanding some sudden changes necessitated by the absence of the two principal singers—Madame Rudersdorff and Mr. Sims Reeves—from indisposition. Miss Annie Sinclair, who took the principal soprano part, was much and deservedly applauded in several instances, particularly in the "Inflammatus" of the "Stabat;" the duet in which, "Quis est homo," and that in the Hymn, "I waited for the Lord," having also been among the effective pieces. Miss Julia Sydney was an efficient second soprano in the last-named duet, and Madame Bentham-Fernandez was the contralto in the other, her singing in this and elsewhere in the "Stabat" having been very praiseworthy. Mr. Raynham acquitted himself well in the arduous task of replacing Mr. Reeves; and Mr. Whitney's fine bass voice was heard to advantage in the "Pro peccatis" and "Eia mater" of Rossini's work. Mr. Barnby conducted with care and judgment, and Mr. Docker presided at the organ with ability, coupled with a somewhat excessive use of the instrument. Exeter Hall was well filled. At the next concert, on Feb. 20, Bach's "Passion Music" is to be performed.

The prospects of Italian Opera this year are, as yet, only to be surmised from rumour, and this seems to indicate that the arrangements will be similar to those of last season, the Covent-garden establishment—still presided over by Mr. Gye—including most of the great singers of the past year, with some important additions; and that of Her Majesty's Opera, at Drury Lane, again under Mr. Mapleson, whose company will comprise many of the celebrated artists heretofore associated with him, added to whom, it is said, will be Madame Alboni. Mdle. Nilsson is to reappear, her return from America being fixed for April 20. Mr. Santley, it is stated, will prolong his stay in that country. Sir M. Costa is spoken of as again to be the conductor at the Drury Lane Opera, the opening of which is expected to take place early in April, the season at the Royal Italian Opera House probably commencing somewhat sooner. Before long, however, the official programmes will replace rumours by distinct and authorised promises.

Among the gossip of the day is the asserted project of a grand new opera-house, to be erected as soon as an eligible site can be obtained. The future fate of the reconstructed Her Majesty's Theatre, in the Haymarket—completed nearly three years since, but never yet used—still remains a matter of doubt, and, it is said, of litigation.

Mr. Ernst Pauer commenced, on Monday afternoon, a new course of lectures, in the theatre of the South Kensington Museum, in illustration of "the Clavecin and the Pianoforte in connection with the general History of Music." The first lecture treated of the state of the instrument and the art in the eighteenth century in Italy, France, and Germany, with specimens, admirably played by the lecturer, selected from the works of Domenico Scarlatti, Couperin and Rameau, Kuhnau and Matheson. No one is more intimately acquainted with the history of his subject than Mr. Pauer, whose high practical accomplishments as a pianist give him peculiar advantages in the exemplification of his remarks by his excellent performances.

An interesting programme is announced for the next con-

cert of the Sacred Harmonic Society, on Feb. 23, when Haydn's third (the "Imperial") mass, Mendelssohn's "Praise Jehovah" ("Lauda Sion"), and Spohr's "Last Judgment" are to be performed.

THE THEATRES.

SURREY.

On Monday Mr. Shepherd produced a new and exciting melodrama, founded on Mr. Edmund Yates's novel called "Nobody's Fortune." The adaptation has been effected by Mr. H. P. Grattan, who deserves more praise than adapters are generally entitled to for the manner in which he has accomplished his task. Like our elder dramatists under similar circumstances, he has recast the story and rewritten the dialogue. The result is that the play has all the freshness of an original work, and the situations tell with the utmost effect on the audience. The action commences with a mere pantomime scene, which represents the North Kent line, on which a convict makes his escape from a train and an assault upon a travelling tinker, in order to gain possession of his tools, by which to rid himself of his fetters. The part of George Bradstock, the escaped convict, is acted by Mr. Shepherd, who gave to this initial scene all that it required in the way of gesture and significant action. A following scene introduces us to the convict's wife and child (Miss Maria B. Jones and Master Welch), who visit the Gravesend Hotel, in order to effect their passage to Australia, and form a beneficial acquaintance with Frank Scorrier (Mr. George Warde), who is about to start for the same colony in pursuit of fortune, that he may be enabled to marry Ellen Wynne (Mrs. Shepherd), niece and heiress to Mr. Womersley (Mr. E. Butler), a retired banker. Before, however, Frank can start, he is intruded upon by George Bradstock, who enters by the window and entreats him to connive at his escape. To induce him to do so the convict reveals to him where the proceeds of the great Gold Robbery are concealed; but Frank indignantly rejects the temptation. A severe struggle ensues, during which a knife which the convict had snatched from the table changes hands, and Bradstock is left for dead. After a lapse of eighteen months we find that both Mrs. Bradstock and Frank Scorrier have returned to England, and the former has obtained the patronage of Mr. Womersley and his niece, who allow her to live in the south lodge of Polwarth Hall and grounds. During the interval a legal vulture, named Ebenezer Pentweaze (Mr. John Murray), speculates on the discovery of the hidden treasure, and, in combination with Bradstock's associate in the robbery, Joseph Grogan (Mr. E. F. Edgar), aims at its possession. To their surprise, the hidden gold has disappeared from the place of its deposit. Pentweaze suspects Mrs. Bradstock of having appropriated it, and takes out a warrant for her apprehension. We now learn that Frank Scorrier, having failed in Australia, on his return to England made use of the information given him by the convict, and has actually possessed himself of the treasure, and on the strength of it has claimed the hand of Ellen Wynne. Finding, however, that Mrs. Bradstock is likely to suffer for his fault, he makes confession of the fact; but, instead of proceeding to the magistrate, places himself in the hands of a rising though juvenile barrister, Jack Durston (Mr. Newbound), who also has a sneaking affection for Ellen, and engages to get him through the business. The case is brought before Captain Hotchkiss, a fox-hunting squire (Mr. Dalton), and the young counsel and old rascally attorney are pitted against each other. In the moment of Pentweaze's triumph Durston brings positive evidence that the money had been abstracted, not by the poor convict's wife, but by Ellen's affianced husband, and that he had a right to take it, the field in which it was deposited having been conveyed to him as part of the arrangements for his intended marriage. Baffled in this, the enraged Pentweaze seeks to indict Scorrier for the murder of Bradstock, when, at a signal, Bradstock puts in an appearance, his life having been saved by a benevolent surgeon, to whose benign instructions he has listened, and thus become "an altered man." A previous scene, in which he had appeared to his wife, proved very effective, and was highly creditable to Mr. Shepherd, who exhibited therein his acting powers at the best. This was followed by another (or rather a continuation of the same), in which Grogan, misled by the idea that the missing treasure was in the keeping of Mrs. Bradstock, enters the lodge for the purpose of securing it, and has a desperate struggle with her, during which Bradstock re-enters and dashes the villain to the earth. Subsequently the two convicts confer, and Bradstock obtains a promise from Grogan that he will attempt to reform, like himself. This appears to be the moral of the drama, and this moral somewhat redeems it from being altogether of the convict class, which description might else be objected to it. There is no doubt the drama is skilfully written, skilfully constructed, and skilfully acted, and will, we think, prove very attractive to Surrey audiences.

ST. JAMES'S—FRENCH PLAYS.

The celebrated seven-act drama by MM. Edouard Brisbarre et Eugène Nus, entitled "Les Pauvres de Paris," well known by Mr. Boucicault's and other adaptations of it in England, has been produced at the St. James's, for the purpose of enabling M. Ravel to appear in the rôle of Planterose. The experience, however, we have had of the play in English versions will help but little in giving a proper idea of the original; those parts of it which always make the most impression on French audiences being uniformly unnoticed by English ones. M. Ravel's impersonation of the part is the reverse of Mr. Vining's. It is chiefly remarkable for its quiet humour. M. Abel personates in the prologue the sea captain, who dies in a fit, and is very true to nature. He was equally effective in the part of the son afterwards. M. Schey obtained a considerable amount of sport out of Bigot, and M. Scipion, as Villebrun, was fully competent to its representation. Mdle. Riel, as his daughter, was sadly misfitted; and the scenery of the piece was somewhat neglected. The acting, however, does not depend on stage effects or scenic appointments.

On Tuesday the company produced M. Gondinet's new four-act comedy of "Christiane," now being performed with unbounded success at the Théâtre Français, Paris. This drama is admirably written, and certainly well acted. But it includes situations so directly opposed to all English notions of propriety, and of what ought to be made the subjects of dramatic representation, as render it a mere literary curiosity. By no process of adaptation, we think, could it be translated to English boards. The struggle between the putative and real father of a child involves such delicate considerations, that the slightest degree of coarseness must have ensured failure. Only the polished and refined manner in which the subject has been treated by the judicious author redeems it from the danger of condemnation. It is but doing justice to the excellent company at this theatre to add that all the characters are satisfactorily represented. Mdle. Riel has a part in Christiane strictly in her line of business, and M. Andrieu, as the fop Achille de Beaubriand, is excellent.

This (Saturday) morning a performance is given of the popular play of "Frou-Frou," in aid of the subscription organised by the men and women of France for the liberation

of the departments still invaded; and it is announced that next Thursday Mdle. Adèle Page will make her first appearance. The following plays are in preparation for her—"La Fiammina," "Héloïse Paranequet," and "Adrienne Lecouvreur."

VALENTINE'S DAY.

Saint Valentine's name happened to sound something like galatin, the old French word for a sweetheart, or suitor of girls, whence the ignorant popular fancy chose that saint's day for the annual flight of love-letters, and this was associated with the pairing of birds for no sounder reason. The childish old custom is still kept up for the entertainment of young folk, in those families whose parents see no objection to a jocular anticipation of the most serious concern in the earthly life of mankind; and it is not likely to do the little girls and boys much real harm, unless by the indiscreet comments of the maid-servants, whose tongues are too apt to run loose on this occasion. The postman's bag on the 14th of this month is a heavy burden. See what a rush there is to meet him at the garden gate! Our Artist, in his design for the large Engraving, represents this incident of domestic life.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of the Right Hon. George Arthur Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, who died at his seat, Bretby Park, Derbyshire, Dec. 1, aged forty, was proved in her Majesty's Court of Probate on the 26th ult. under £80,000 personality, by the Hon. Edward Chandos Leigh, barrister-at-law, of the Temple; General the Hon. Richard William Penn Curzon, 46, Charles-street, Berkeley-square; and his Lordship's uncles, the Hon. Henry Forester and the Hon. and Rev. Orlando Forester, Rector of Gedling, Notts, the joint acting executors and trustees; to each of them, as executors, he leaves a legacy of £500; and a further legacy to his uncle Henry of £10,000, and to his uncle Orlando £5000. To his mother, the Right Hon. Anne Elizabeth, Countess of Chesterfield, he leaves his jewellery and personal ornaments absolutely, also a life interest arising from the rents and profits of his estates, which, after her decease, he leaves to his sister Evelyn, Countess of Carnarvon, and also all his real estate, and the residue of the personal estate, in trust for his said sister for her life; and afterwards he devises and bequeaths the same to his nephew, George Edward Stanhope Molyneux Lord Porchester, the only son of his sister. He bequeaths to his cousin, Isabella, wife of Richard William Penn, Esq., the interest of £10,000 for her life, with power of disposition over the principal at her death. Legacies to his servants—To his valet, James King, he leaves his wearing apparel and £50; to Mrs. Eddury, his housekeeper, and Mrs. Pott, widow of his late steward, each £50. He bequeaths to the Derbyshire County Infirmary and the Nottingham County Infirmary each £1000. The will bears date May 6, 1871.

The will of the Right Hon. Maria Augusta, Dowager Countess of Listowel, relict of the Right Hon. William, second Earl of Listowel, was proved in London, on the 25th ult., under £30,000 personality, by her son, the Right Hon. William, Earl of Listowel, and her son-in-law, John Wrixon Becher, Esq., the joint acting executors and trustees; and to each, for their trouble, she leaves a legacy of £500. The will is dated Aug. 16, 1869, and her Ladyship died at the family seat, Convamore, Cork, on Oct. 31 last, in her eighty-sixth year. Her Ladyship bequeaths her rings to her daughters by her second marriage, and the furniture and plate to Lady Alfred Paget, her daughter by her first marriage. There are numerous pecuniary and specific bequests to her near relatives and friends and legacies to her servants. She bequeaths to Miss Elizabeth Gollsmick, for some time residing in her family, a legacy of £4000 and the furniture at the cottage of Ballylwoly; and to her lady's-maid £1500. She directs that the sum of £500 be distributed among the families of the poor of Ballylwoly, Bloomfield, and Convamore, who may have been at any time in her Ladyship's employ. Her real estate and the residue of her personal she leaves to her second son, Richard, absolutely. Her Ladyship gives her son, the present Earl, the option of purchasing for the sum of £8000 all her diamonds and pearls, together with the paintings, plate, and furniture, and other effects at Convamore, not otherwise disposed of.

The will of Thomas Munden, Esq., of Castle-street, Ruthin, Denbigh, was proved, in London, under £5000 personality, and contains the following bequests to institutions:—To King Edward's Free Grammar School at Ruthin, £500, to found a scholarship bearing his name; to the Royal Society of Musicians, London, the General Hospital and the Blind Asylum, both at Birmingham, and the Societies for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, each £100.

The will of Thomas George Gardiner, formerly in the Hon. E. I. Company's Service, Bombay, and late of Twickenham, who died on the 2nd ult., was proved in London, under £12,000; that of Charles Henry Smith, formerly of H.M. Naval Arsenal, Malta, and late of Bury St. Edmunds, was proved under £8000 personality in England; that of Henry Robert Linnett Cood, merchant, formerly of Peru and of Chili, in South America, and late of Clifton, Bristol, was proved in London, under £1500 personality in England; and that of Edward Burstall, merchant, formerly of Quebec, Canada, and late of the Palace Hotel, Buckingham-gate, where he died, on Nov. 24 last, was proved in London, on the 16th ult., under £25,000 personality in England.

The late Earl of Kenmare, whose will was given last week, sat in the House of Lords as Baron Kenmare of the United Kingdom. He was not a Deputy Lieutenant of the county of Kerry; but his son, the present Earl, is, and has been for some years, Lord Lieutenant of that county. The legacies given to his servants were limited to those who had been for a year or upwards in his service.

The council of the Workmen's Peace Association met, on Saturday last, and passed a resolution deprecating "the persistent efforts now being made to damage the cause of international arbitration."

Several thousand colliers in the Black Country having been on strike at the beginning of last week, a meeting of masters was held, on Thursday week, at Birmingham, at which it was agreed to concede all the demands of the men without any further advance in the price of coals. In South Wales the men have arranged to resume work conditionally.

Yesterday week the opening of a new female training college in connection with the British and Foreign School Society took place at Darlington. The college will have accommodation for fifty pupils. The vice-principal of the new college is Mr. J. Langton, M.A. A conference and public meeting in connection with the new college was held in the evening, after the formal opening—Mr. Henry Pease, ex-M.P. for South Durham, presiding.



VALENTINE'S DAY: "OH! HERE'S THE POSTMAN!"

THE MAGAZINES.

MM. Erckmann and Chatrian's "Story of the Plébiscite," in the *Cornhill*, is less remarkable as a fiction than as a truthful representation of the feelings of the peasantry of Alsace upon finding their province in the occupation of the enemy they had brought upon themselves by their blind trust in their foolish and dishonest Government. That, under these circumstances, the Government should get even more (if possible) than its fair share of censure, that the portrait of the Prussians should be a caricature, belongs to the dramatic propriety of the situation, and enlivens its many melancholy details with a touch of irony. Miss Thackeray's "Riquet à la Houppe" is chiefly noticeable for the beautiful descriptions of Swiss scenery. There is only one other contribution of any interest, but this is an exceedingly good one, being Mr. Mitford's description of a visit to the Japanese temples of Kamakura, around which clusters a mass of most romantic history and legend, bearing a strong affinity to the traditions of mediæval Europe, and delightfully recounted by Mr. Mitford. Kamakura itself is a kind of Japanese Ravenna, consisting almost entirely of temples, which, from their more solid construction and the pains bestowed to keep them in repair, have survived the forsaken city to which they were once merely an appendage.

The "Story of a Phaeton," in *Macmillan*, is chiefly made up of descriptions of English rural and river scenery, toned, tinted, and finished with consummate skill. "Christina North," the other story, is mildly agreeable. The most valuable contribution to the number is Mr. Helps's statesman-like dialogue on the adjustment of the old and new political forces in the English community, which it is satisfactory to find so prudent and experienced a thinker regarding as perfectly practicable. There are also an interesting account of the system under which publicans' licenses are regulated in Sweden, a defence by Madame de Witt of the customary training of French children, and one of those inevitable eulogiums of Mr. Bright which bear such a suspicious resemblance to political obituaries of the right honourable gentleman. "I come to bury Cæsar, and to praise him."

Blackwood looks forward to speedily pronouncing the funeral oration of the Ministry itself, and prepares the way in an article entitled "The Reasonable Fears of the Country," which might more appropriately have been entitled "The Reasonable Hopes of the Tories." The rest of the number will be acceptable to readers of all political persuasions, and no part more so, perhaps, than the intelligent and practical account of French management in the matter of food. A well-written paper on Burns vindicates the poet's character at the expense of his patrons, and scarcely allows sufficient influence to his own errors and failings. It is true that the pernicious effect of these was rather owing to the sphere of life in which the poet moved than to anything particularly obnoxious in his own conduct or character, but the result was not less disastrous on that account. Professor Owen exposes the tricks of the Cairo serpent-charmers in a singularly genial and sagacious fashion. "The Maid of Sker" is continued with as much ability as usual, while a notice of M. Quinet's suggestive and poetical, if not scientifically exact, work on "Creation," and an account of the admirable scheme for general education now on foot at Keighley, add considerably to the interest of a really excellent number.

Fraser contains one paper of great value—that by Mr. Gifford Palgrave—on the recent remarkable revival of earnest and aggressive religious feeling among Mohammedan nations, a movement which he justly compares to the Anglo-Catholic reaction at home. Four symptoms of its prevalence in the Ottoman empire are adduced—the spread of religious education, the disuse of fermented liquors, the elimination of Christians from the public service, and the zeal displayed in founding and restoring mosques and colleges. The second point would commend itself to the approval of Mr. Francis Newman, whose essay on the drink traffic proceeds on the assumption that people can, and ought to, be made sober by Act of Parliament. Many consider that they might be made orthodox by the same means; and it requires no prophet to discern that if Mr. Newman's principle of over-ruling individual liberty for the supposed general benefit were admitted, he would be in at least as much jeopardy as the publicans. Some notes from the German expedition to East Greenland give an interesting account of that wild region, which, although at present uninhabited by man, appears to be less dreary than might have been expected. Professor Owen's paper on longevity is called forth by the Bishop of Ely's rash assertion that some eminent physiologists saw no difficulty in the longevity attributed to the Patriarchs. The Bishop's discomfiture is speedy and complete; but his successful antagonist catches the infection of the subject, and continues to prose as though he were himself addressing a public of Methuselahs. This garrulity, however, is in part redeemed by the eloquence of the concluding paragraph.

The contribution to the *Fortnightly Review* best calculated to attract general interest is, no doubt, Mr. G. H. Lewes's "Dickens in Relation to Criticism." Mr. Lewes approaches his subject on the psychological side, and accounts for many of the peculiarities of Dickens's genius by a reference to the phenomena of hallucination. The essay also contains some interesting personal anecdotes. Mr. Lyall's "Religion of an Indian Province" traces the popular religion of India to its probable origin in fetishism. The number also contains a lively essay on Bishop Warburton, by Mr. Leslie Stephen; a spirited plea for the political enfranchisement of women, by Mr. A. Arnold; a rather feeble indictment of the Established Church, by Mr. George Potter; and a paper on Irish policy, by the editor, which we only mention for the sake of expressing unqualified dissent from his disparaging estimate of the most characteristically English Minister England ever had—Sir Robert Peel.

The *Contemporary Review* opens with an earnest protest, from the pen of Mr. F. Seebohm, against the miserable sectarian spitefulness which would delay the education of the people indefinitely rather than intrust any share of the work to the Church of England. Mr. Seebohm shows clearly that the provisions of Mr. Forster's Act, now assailed by the Birmingham League, are identical with those originally proposed by the league itself, and adds some suggestions well calculated to obviate the least suspicion of unfairness towards the Nonconformist minority. The heading of the paper on "Fenianism," "By One Who Knows," raises expectations of special information which the paper itself does not justify. Mr. Haweis's notice of Henry Ward Beecher, and Professor Godwin's vindication of the apostolic origin of the Fourth Gospel, are well worth reading. Mr. Foulkes's notice of Dr. Newman's essays turns chiefly on the points which the author's remarkable learning has made his own, such as the fact of the modern Church of Rome having, by her recent additions to the Creed, actually incurred the anathemas prospectively pronounced in ancient times by her own Bishops.

Hawthorne's posthumous romance continues to be the chief feature in *Saint Pauls*. The second part is marked by the same weird power as the first. We hardly know whether most to admire the vividness with which Septimius's moody mono-

mania is depicted or the skilful contrivance of the incidents that aggravate its intensity. "Phil Blood's Leap," by the author of "St. Abe," affords conclusive proof that this writer is no American. There is nothing else remarkable but the continuation of Miss Ingelow's pretty story, "Off the Skelligs," and Mr. Buchanan's flimsy and tawdry glorification of Dickens as the "good genie" of fiction.

There is little to note in *Temple Bar* beyond an able criticism on Wordsworth, correct in its strictures on individual passages, but unjust from its failure to recognise his immense direct and indirect influence on his contemporaries and successors. No poet, perhaps, ever taught so much and learned so little. The most remarkable contribution to *Tinsley* is also poetico-critical—an animadversion, too elaborate for the subject, on a recent offensive paper in another periodical. "The Influence of Travel" is lively and judicious. The first of Mr. Sala's series of sketches of "Imaginary London," in *Belgravia*, like most of Mr. Sala's essays, resembles Thackeray considerably overdone, but, like most of them again, is cheerful and vigorous. "Popular Religion in America" and "Pike-Fishing in Norfolk" are entertaining papers. "America versus England," in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, is an attempt to prove that our conduct during the Civil War gave the United States no reason to be dissatisfied with us. We shall be glad if it convinces them. "The Lightning Before Death" is an interesting discussion of a very suggestive phenomenon. The *New Monthly* commences a new series, but the novelty is at present confined to the cover, which is gorgeous. The *Argosy* has a good critique on Hawthorne's note-books, and some excellent short stories.

Mr. Trollope's "Golden Lion of Grandpère," in *Good Words*, is able, but does not exhibit him on the ground where he is strongest. Mr. Davies's lecture on Communism; Mr. B. Orme's account of that truly practical philanthropist, the late Mr. E. Denison; Mr. Proctor's popular astronomy; and Canon Kingsley's popular geology, are all, in their respective ways, patterns of wholesome and instructive literature.

London Society and the Monthly Packet are excellently adapted to their public. We have also to acknowledge the St. James's Magazine, the Dark Blue, the Victoria Magazine, Cassell's Magazine, Good Words for the Young, Aunt Judy, the Sunday Magazine, Free Light, the Monthly Microscopical Journal, Beeton's Young Englishwoman, the Month's Dress and Fashion, the Milliner and Dressmaker, the Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine, and the Treasury of Literature and Ladies' Treasury.

The most remarkable article in a very good number of the *Quarterly* is that entitled "The Proletariat on a False Scent," in which Mr. Scott Russell's proposals are discussed with great ability, and in anything but a party spirit. The most learned is the excellent paper on Yule's Marco Polo; the most entertaining the review, itself replete with anecdote of Sir Henry Holland's reminiscences; the most trenchant the vigorous exposure of the pretences of the Roman Catholic priesthood to control education in Ireland; the most interesting on many accounts that on the drama, the work of a devoted playgoer, who refuses to perceive that the conditions under which his favourite pursuit flourished are fatally altered. The paper on recent poetry shows how much easier for some minds is the espial of minute faults than the recognition of striking excellences.

The most noteworthy essay in the *British Quarterly* is the eloquent exposure of the meanness and rapacity of the First Napoleon, founded on M. Lanfrey's biography, and attributed to the pen of Professor Seeley. The paper on "Mohammed" is also understood to proceed from an unusually competent hand. Beethoven, Catullus, and the "Speaker's Commentary" are the subjects of able papers; and especial interest is imparted to "An English Interior in the 17th Century" by the circumstance of the document on which it is founded being still in MS.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

THE VEGETABLE ALKALIES.

Professor Odling began his third lecture, on Thursday week, the 1st inst., by referring to the existence of the alkalies in three states—carbonates, hydrates, and oxides, the last being merely chemical curiosities. He then alluded to the combination of alkalies with acids to form salts, such as sulphates and nitrates, which was experimentally illustrated. He next described the original extraction of potash from inland plants by burning, and stated that the yield of potash varied with the nature of the ash; the quantity of the ash being also variable with the nature of the plant, the part of the plant, the season of the year, and the character of the soil. The amount of potash is least in timber, more in bark, yet more in leaves and the succulent parts of trees, and still more in succulent vegetables. Plants, he said, might even be classified according to their ashes:—Siliceous, as grass crops; calcareous, as tobacco, potato tops, and clover; and potassic, as bulbs and tubers; and he referred to the estimations of Johnston, Lawes, and Gilbert respecting the amount of potash removed from the soil by different crops. Among other results, they found that more than a ton of potash per acre had been removed from the soil in seventeen years by clover. Potash, although found chiefly in plant ashes in the form of carbonate, most probably exists in the plant as an organic salt, being transformed in the process of incineration. Professor Odling next considered the relative amounts of potash and soda in plants, and stated that, out of 200 ash analyses of inland plants, in one fifth there was found no soda, but only potash; in six sevenths potash in excess; and in one seventh soda in excess; and he referred to the property of plants to take up matters which they do not assimilate, as shown by Daubeny's experiments with barley. The Professor then described Bunsen's discovery of the two new alkali metals, rubidium and cesium, by spectrum analysis, obtaining only a few grains from the evaporation of forty-four tons of Durkheim water; and he stated that upon the examination of their properties they were found to present the most striking analogies to potassium, and evidently to stand to it in the same relation that strontium and barium stand to calcium, while they differ from sodium as much as strontium and barium differ from magnesium. Like potash, rubidium has been found in vegetable ashes, such as those of tea, coffee, tobacco, &c., but in minute portions; while cesium, free from rubidium, has been found in a rare mineral termed pollux, from its always occurring in association with another mineral, a variety of petalite, termed castor, in the Isle of Elba. The lecture concluded with the exhibition of the characteristic flames of these elements.

IDENTITY OF LIGHT AND RADIANT HEAT.

Professor Tyndall, at the Friday evening meeting, Feb. 2, gave a discourse on the Identity of Light and Radiant Heat. In his opening remarks he quoted the lines of Pope (in his "Essay on Man")—

All are but parts of one stupendous whole,
Whose body Nature is,—

and added that the parts of Nature are as closely connected as the various organs and functions of the human body, and that

it is the office of the man of science to endeavour to discover the lines of law which connect them. In former times philosophers doubted the identity of light and heat; and Melloni, to whom we owe the invention of the thermo-electric pile, after isolating a solar beam, affirmed that it possessed no heat. But the eye, said Professor Tyndall, is sensitive to light having so little heat that the most delicate thermometer is unaffected by it; and now their identity is established by the researches of Principal Forbes, Foucault, and eminent investigators. Their delicate experiments were carried on in private laboratories, and seen only by few; but Professor Tyndall expressed the hope that, as the result of many days' continuous labour, he might be able to make the phenomena visible and intelligible to his audience. After explaining the construction and application of the thermo-electric pile, which, by means of a sensitive galvanometer, visibly indicates a very small degree of heat, he produced from the electric lamp a fine spectrum, and showed that when a red ribbon was placed in the red ray it remained red, stating that no heat was absorbed; but when it was placed in the green ray it became black, and absorbed heat. When a green ribbon was placed in the red ray a similar result ensued. Whenever light was absorbed heat was absorbed. He next reminded his audience of the existence of the invisible heat rays beyond the red end of the spectrum, discovered by Sir William Herschel, and since his time fully demonstrated; and he then introduced a dark solution (iodine in bisulphide of carbon) which intercepts the rays of light, but permits the passage of the heat rays, being what is termed diathermanous. By this means he was enabled to isolate the rays of radiant heat and deal with them in precisely the same way as with rays of light, producing, in a visible manner, all the interesting phenomena of refraction, reflection from plane and concave surfaces, refraction by Iceland spar, and plane and circular polarisation. And, finally, the Professor exhibited the magnetisation of a polarised ray of radiant heat—first performed by the late Principal Forbes—in the same manner as Faraday magnetised a ray of polarised light, by means of his heavy glass and electro-magnet. The results of the last experiment were indicated by the motions of a very delicate galvanometer, of which an illuminated magnified image was projected upon a white screen. The principles involved in these experiments were elucidated and illustrated; and, in his concluding remarks, Professor Tyndall stated that feeble rays of heat exist at the violet end of the spectrum, and that all the visible rays contained heat; and, finally, he commented upon the vast wealth of colour and beauty which lies within so short a range.

The president, Sir Henry Holland, Bart., was in the chair.

THE RIVAL OF SHAKESPEARE—BEN JONSON.

Mr. W. B. Donne began his third lecture on the Theatre in Shakspeare's Time, with a description of Ben Jonson, as he might have appeared about 1633—a stout, infirm, elderly man, of dissipated appearance, and in reduced circumstances, through the loss of his eminent friends and patrons, and of the public favour. He had been one of the most conspicuous men of his time, and deservedly so, on account of his genius and learning; yet he incurred much enmity through his great self-esteem, and his claiming a dogmatic right to rule the public taste. Not the least remarkable incident in his life is the association of his name with that of Shakspeare; yet there was no literary co-partnership between them, and, although termed rivals, there was really no personal opposition or ill-will. "I loved the man," said Jonson, "and do honour his memory this side idolatry." The rivalry really consisted in their being considered by public opinion to be leaders of two opposite dramatic schools. Jonson was pertinacious in his theories of what a play ought to be; but Shakspeare's good sense told him that all Aristotle's rules were derived from the acting drama, and could never create a single play. Jonson aimed at pruning away what he considered the too luxuriant shoots of the romantic drama—a censure truly applicable to most of the earlier writers. After citing several examples, Mr. Donne alluded to Plato's notion, that a great stage-poet should be equally conspicuous for his power of affecting the passions and of causing legitimate mirth, which has been achieved by two only—Shakspeare and Goethe. Jonson was a reader of books rather than of men. He studied the outward forms and peculiarities rather than the common nature of mankind; unlike Shakspeare. Jonson, as it were, photographed the people of his time, and thus is very amusing and often instructive; but he does not move our feelings or give material for thought. He gives the picture of a time that was alive but is now dead; but Shakspeare has given us friends that will ever live in our memories. In illustration of this Mr. Donne referred to the Roman characters in Shakspeare's and Jonson's tragedies; the former are derived from the knowledge of human nature, the latter are described in accordance with classical historians. As examples of Jonson's mistaken devotion to dramatic rules, Mr. Donne specially discussed his "Alchemist" and "Volpone," saying in respect of the latter that, in spite of its many merits, it will never please a modern reader, because there is in it an undercurrent of dramatic improbability and a vein of absolute repulsiveness. Mr. Donne thought that in taking stage-poetry as the business of his life Jonson made a great mistake; and he probably felt this himself, as appears in his ode commencing "Come, leave this loathed stage." He might have been an excellent historian or lyric poet; but he certainly suffered much diminution by comparison with Shakspeare. Yet with all his faults, putting into the opposite scale his many gifts and acquisitions, we must admit, said Mr. Donne, that the epitaph accidentally assigned to him could not have been better—"O rare Ben Jonson!"

CIRCULATION OF THE BLOOD—THE PULSE.

Dr. Wm. Rutherford, F.R.S., began his fourth lecture on the Circulatory and Nervous Systems, given on Tuesday last, by describing the muscular structure of the heart and the action of the valves. He stated that there were two sounds produced in the heart—one, the louder and the stronger of the two, when the ventricles begin to contract; and the other when they cease. The first sound is due to the stretching of the great valves—those placed between the auricles and ventricles, as well as to the contraction of the muscular fibres of the heart; while the second sound is simply due to the stretching of the small or semi-lunar valves. The structure of the blood-vessels was described, and they were shown to possess contractility and elasticity. The phenomena of the pulse were explained by the aid of several models designed by the lecturer, and it was shown why the pulse is ordinarily confined to the arteries, and why, when the small arteries and the capillaries are dilated, the pulse is also observed in the veins. The motion of the artery which constitutes the pulse was written off upon a piece of smoked glass, by means of an instrument termed the sphygmograph. This apparatus essentially consists of a lever with a spring, which is made to press upon the artery at the wrist. The motions of the artery are thus communicated to the lever, the moving part of which is connected with the smoked glass, moved by clockwork, whereby the motions are recorded. An ingenious use was also made of the simple fact that, when one

leg is crossed over the other, in the way frequently adopted by persons in a sitting posture, the hanging foot is slightly raised every time the heart drives blood down the artery at the back of the leg. A lever with a mirror was rested on the moving foot, and a beam of light reflected upon the mirror was thrown upon the screen, and thus the slight motions of the foot produced by the pulse were magnified and rendered visible to all present. Dr. Rutherford then explained how the blood pressure is due to an over-filling of the vessels with blood, and, by means of a model, he showed how the blood is accumulated in the arteries more than in the veins, thus causing the arterial to be greater than the venous pressure—a subject to be considered in the next lecture.

Dr. Gladstone, F.R.S., at the evening meeting, Feb. 16, will give a discourse on the Crystallisation of Silver, Gold, and other Metals.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS BROWNLOW.

The Right Hon. Emma Sophia, Dowager Countess Brownlow, died, on the 28th ult., at her residence, Belton Lodge, Torquay. Her Ladyship was born, July 28, 1791, the elder daughter of Richard, second Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe, by Sophia, his wife, third daughter and coheir of John, second Earl of Buckinghamshire, and was married, July 17, 1828 (she was his third wife), to John, first Earl Brownlow, grandfather of the present Earl. Her Ladyship had no issue, and was left a widow, Sept. 15, 1853.

GENERAL CHESNEY.

Francis Rawdon Chesney, General in the Army, and Colonel-Commandant 14th Brigade Royal Artillery, D.C.L., F.R.S., the pioneer of the Overland Route to India, died at his residence, Packolet, in the county of Down, on the 30th ult. He was born at Ballyrea, in Ireland, 1789 (deriving his Christian names from his sponsor, Francis Rawdon, the celebrated Earl of Moira), and obtained his first commission, Royal Artillery, 1805; but he had to reach his 40th year before an opportunity occurred of obtaining distinction. In 1829 he sailed for Constantinople, with a view to assist in the defence of Turkey, but by the time he reached his destination the preliminaries of peace had been signed. At this time Captain Chesney undertook the solution of the problem of regular steam communication with India, and in 1835-6 he accomplished his famous Euphrates expedition. Chesney returned to England in 1837, and subsequently, from 1843 to 1847, commanded, as Brigadier-General, the Artillery in China, and from 1848 to 1852 the Artillery in the south of Ireland. In 1850 he published his "Survey of the Tigris and Euphrates," and in 1852 his "Observations on the Past and Present State of Firearms." He attained the rank of full General in 1868. One of his sons, Colonel Chesney, is the reputed author of "The Battle of Dorking."

GENERAL BEATSON.

General Beatson died, on Sunday, at New Swindon Vicarage, aged sixty-seven. The deceased, who was of the Bengal army, had seen considerable service in India. As a young man, when on furlough, he also served with the British Legion in Spain, and was prominently before the public during the Crimean War, as the organiser of the Bashi-Bazouk force.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ALISON.

Frederick Montague Alison, Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army, late 19th Regiment of Foot, died, at Innes House, Elgin, on the 1st inst. This gallant officer was born, May 11, 1835, the second son of the late Sir Archibald Alison, Bart., D.C.L., the historian, by Elizabeth Glencairn, his wife, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Tytler. Colonel Alison served in the Crimea and during the Indian Mutiny. In the latter campaign he was Aide-de-Camp to Sir Colin Campbell (Lord Clyde), and was wounded at the siege of Lucknow.

CAPTAIN W. SWABEY.

The death of Captain William Swabey, one of the few remaining heroes of the old French wars, in his eighty-fourth year, took place on the 6th inst. We believe that Captain Swabey may be justly said to have been the father of the Royal Horse Artillery, inasmuch as he was present with a battery at Copenhagen in 1806. He also served under Sir Robert Gardiner through the Peninsular campaigns, had a medal and clasps for the actions at Toulouse, Vittoria, Salamanca, and Ciudad Rodrigo, receiving a bullet in the knee during the battle of Vittoria. He was also present at the final triumph of the British arms at Waterloo, for which he received a medal, and at the subsequent occupation of Paris. His faculties were perfect to the last. He leaves ten children to mourn his loss.

A handsome and commodious market has been erected at Newton Abbot, Devonshire, at a cost of £17,000.

An explosion took place on Monday, at the Faversham Powder Mills, by which two men were killed and two others fearfully burnt.

A meeting was held in Bristol, yesterday week, in favour of the extension of the franchise to women, and resolutions were passed approving of legislation to that effect. Lady Amberley presided, and among the speakers were Lord Amberley, Miss Sturge, and Miss Ashworth.

During the past month there sailed from Liverpool twenty-five ships, under the Act, to the United States, with 587 cabin and 2663 steerage passengers, of whom 2095 were English, 38 Scotch, 265 Irish, and 852 foreigners: in all, 3250. There sailed, also, of vessels not undergoing Government inspection—ten to the United States, with 540 passengers; to Victoria, one, with 25 passengers; West Indies, three, with 36 passengers; China, two, with 35 passengers; Africa, three, with 32 passengers; and to South America, seven vessels, with 134 passengers: making a total of twenty-six ships and 802 passengers. The gross total of passengers for the past month is 4052, against 2904 during the same month of last year. Many of the emigrants have gone to Chicago.

According to the quarterly return of the Registrar-General, in the United Kingdom the births of 256,319 children, and the deaths of 175,890 persons of both sexes, were registered in the three months ending Dec. 31, 1871. The natural increase of population was thus 80,429. Dealing exclusively with England, we are informed that the summer marriages of 1871 increased in number, and that the average rate was slightly exceeded. In the three last months of that year births abounded, and exceeded the numbers of any preceding autumn, but the average rate was scarcely reached. The deaths were raised to the extent of 7000 over the average by the severity of the weather, and the mortality was above the average, especially in the towns of the kingdom. Smallpox, owing to defective administrative arrangements, was, in spite of the Compulsory Vaccination Act, more fatal than any other epidemic—of it more than 6000 died, chiefly children. The deaths by fever, chiefly enteric, occur more among men and women of mature age: the number of such deaths was 4692.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. F., Cardiff.—It requires more moves than the general reader likes; but it shall be examined and reported on.
E. A., Hereford.—Received, with thanks.
F. R. D.,—They shall have every attention.
W. A., Temple.—The misprints you speak of were discovered too late for remedy. They are so obvious, however, that the context corrects them.
C. J., Strabane.—You must state to whom, and where to, amateurs wishing to play are to address their letters.
I. P. N. S., Liege, Belgium; DANTE; GEORGE BROOKE Doncaster ARABELLA.—Your solutions of the last Knight's Tour are correct.
S. H., Nottingham.—Always welcome.
W. S. A., Inns of Court.—We regret having failed to obtain the information you require.
RED KNIGHT.—Undoubtedly your move of 24. Q to Kt 3rd would turn the scale in Black's favour.
J. E. G., Salford.—The best reply for White is thought to be 4. Kt to Q 3rd.
I. G. F., Ramsgate.—They are all below our standard. Try again.
C. W., of Sturbury.—No. 1 is the better of the two, and if, upon re-examination, no flaw is discovered, it shall appear. We are reminded to say that in future you will do well to write the solutions at the back of the diagrams.
GEORGE—MYRA.—If we are unable, from want of space, to give the solution of the Knight's Tour No. VII. this week it shall be given in our next.
J. A. W. HUNTER.—The problem in four moves is correct and clever.
THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1457 has been received from M. M.—Li Calsi—Emile Frau, of Lyons—Banshee—W. P. W.—Pip—Q. S. Thornbury—W. G. Harris—M. P.—C. W.—Horace Scargill—H. M.—Dow—Box and Cox—G. R. T.—Yan-guard—Nauticus—B. A.—Henry and Randolph—E. R. S.—Sammy—W. D. E.—Felix—F. R. D.—Stanley Bullock—Punch and Judy—R. B. B.—William N.—J. B. E.—Ben—F. D., Wellington—Ebenzer—Sigma—Joe Willet—L. S. D.—Manfred and Man Friday—O. P. Q.—S. P.—Whitehead—Phis—W. Alky—Sigismond—E. M.—Derevon—F. M. D.—Jeany—Horatio Bwyrt—A. H.—E. H. V.—Keith and Kate—John Smith, Leigh—R. A.—Fate—W. N. B.—F. Hall—A. P. C. Kup—I. W. Canterbury—G. G. Heywood—Telemachus—Philo S.—Conrade—Willie Mellowood—Ch. E. J. Ostend—Will—R. D. T.—F. H. M.—W. B.—A. Wood—T. W. B.—Phl—Alex. Nevis—Princes—Trial—Thornhill—Boz—W. Feltrap—C. M. H.—Rory O'More—Cashel—M. D.—Hermes—Wilnot—S. P. Q. B., of Bruges—D. D.—Margery—All—Bishop—Ferdinand and Miranda—F. W. Lord—Percy—Q. E. D.—W. G. Murray—E. J. Bedford.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1457.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R. to K Kt 5th			
If White begin with R. takes Kt the Black Queen takes Pawn. If White begin with R. to Q B 7th the reply is Q to K Kt 5th. So, if White begin with K to K R 7th,			
		the answer is Q takes P.	
		1. Any move.	
		2. One of the Knights gives mate.	

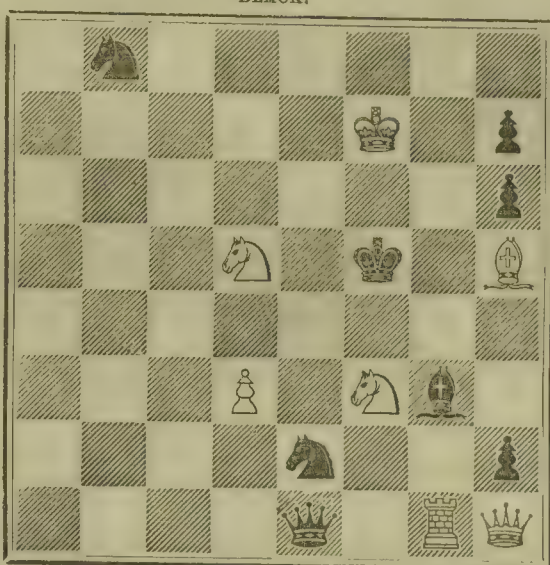
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1458.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to K R 2nd (ch)	R takes B	3. K to Q 8th	Any move
2. K to Q B 8th	Kt to K 2nd (ch)*	4. Q or Kt mates.	
* 2. P takes Kt	Kt to Kt 3rd (ch)	4. Q or Kt mates.	
	Any move		

PROBLEM No. 1459.

By Mr. DENDRINO.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN GLASGOW.

Game between DELTA, on one side, and several Glasgow Amateurs, consulting together, on the other side.—(Musio Gambit.)

BLACK (The Allies).	WHITE (Delta).	BLACK (The Allies).	WHITE (Delta).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	23. P to K R 3rd	Q to K 2nd
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	24. B to Q 3rd	Kt takes P
3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	25. B takes P	P to K B 4th
4. B to Q B 4th	P to K Kt 5th	26. Q takes Q R P	R to K R sq
5. Castles	P takes Kt	The commencement of a powerful and durable attack.	
6. Q takes P	Q to K B 3rd	27. B to Q R 6th	Kt to Q B 3rd
7. P to Q 3rd	B to K R 3rd	28. B takes B (ch)	K takes B
8. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 3rd	29. Q to Kt 5th (ch)	K to B 2nd
9. Kt to K 2nd	Kt to K 2nd	30. Q takes P	R to K B 2nd
10. P to Q 4th	Kt to K Kt 3rd	31. Q takes B P	Q R to K R sq
11. P to K 5th	Q to K 2nd	32. R to K B 3rd	Q to K 7th
12. P to Q B 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th	33. K R to B 2nd	Q to K sq
13. B to Q Kt 3rd	P takes Kt	34. P to Q Kt 4th	R to R 4th
14. Kt takes P	B takes Kt	35. Q to K B 4th (ch)	Kt to K 4th
15. B takes B	Kt takes B	36. R to K 2nd	Q to K 3rd
16. Q takes Kt	R to K B sq	37. Q R to K sq	P to Q 3rd
17. P to Q 5th	Q to Q B 4th (ch)	38. P to Q B 4th	R to R 5th
18. K to R sq	P to Q R 5th	Here, as on the preceding move, the following variation was in his power:—	
A move played without due consideration, and which ought to have cost the game.			
19. B to Q B 2nd			
The Allies overlooked the grand opportunity offered them by Delta's false step. They should have advanced the Queen's Pawn, and they must then have won off-hand. For suppose—			
19. P to Q 6th P to K B 3rd			
The only move to avert immediate mate.			
21. P takes P K to Q sq (best)			
21. P to K R 7th R takes P			
22. Q to K R 5th (ch), and mates in three moves.			
19. P takes P P takes P			
20. B takes K R P Kt to Q B 3rd			
21. R to K B 2nd B to Q Kt 2nd			
22. Q R to K B sq Castles, and Delta gave mate in two moves.			

Another Game between DELTA on one side and some Glasgow Amateurs in consultation on the other.—(K Bishop's Gambit.)

WHITE (Delta).	BLACK (The Allies).	WHITE (Delta).	BLACK (The Allies).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	23. R to K 4th	Kt to Q B 6th
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	24. P to Q Kt 3rd	Kt to Q 3rd
3. B to Q B 4th	P to Q 4th	25. R to K 6th	Kt to K B 4th
4. P takes P	Q to K R 5th (ch)	26. B to K 3rd	Q R to K 2nd
5. K to B sq	B to Q 3rd	27. R takes R	R takes R
6. Kt to K B 3rd	Q to K R 4th	28. R to K sq	P to K R 4th
7. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	29. P to Q B 4th	K to B 2nd
8. P to Q 4th	Castles	30. P to Q 5th	
9. B to Q 2nd	P to Q R 3rd	Overbold and irrecoverable.	
10. K to Kt sq	P to Q Kt 4th	30. P takes Q P	P takes Q P
11. B to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q Kt 2nd	31. P takes Q P	R to Q 2nd
12. Kt to K 2nd	Kt takes P	32. R to Q sq	Kt to K 2nd
13. B takes Kt	B takes B	33. P to Q 6th	Kt to K B 4th
14. Q Kt takes P	K B takes Q Kt	34. B to Q B 6th	K to K 3rd
15. B takes B	B takes Kt	35. R to K sq (ch)	K to Q 4th
16. Q takes B	Q takes Kt	36. R to K 7th	
17. P takes Q		Very ingenious; for, had Black captured this Rook with either K or Rook they would inevitably have lost the day.	
17. K to B 2nd	Kt to Q 2nd	36. K to Q B 3rd	
19. K R to K Kt sq	P to K B 3rd	37. R takes R	K takes R
20. B to K R 6th	R to K B 2nd	38. P to Q R 4th	Kt takes P; and, after a long fight of nearly thirty moves more, Delta resigned.
21. R to Kt 4th	Kt to Q Kt 3rd		
22. Q R to K Kt sq	Q R to Q R 2nd		

MATCH BETWEEN NOTTINGHAM AND DERBY.—A few days ago a match was played at the Bromley House Club, Nottingham, between some of the picked players of that club and some of the best of the Derby Club. Ten games in all were fought, and the result gave:— Nottingham .. 5 | Derby .. 2 | Drawn .. 3

FALL OF A ROCK AT NICE.

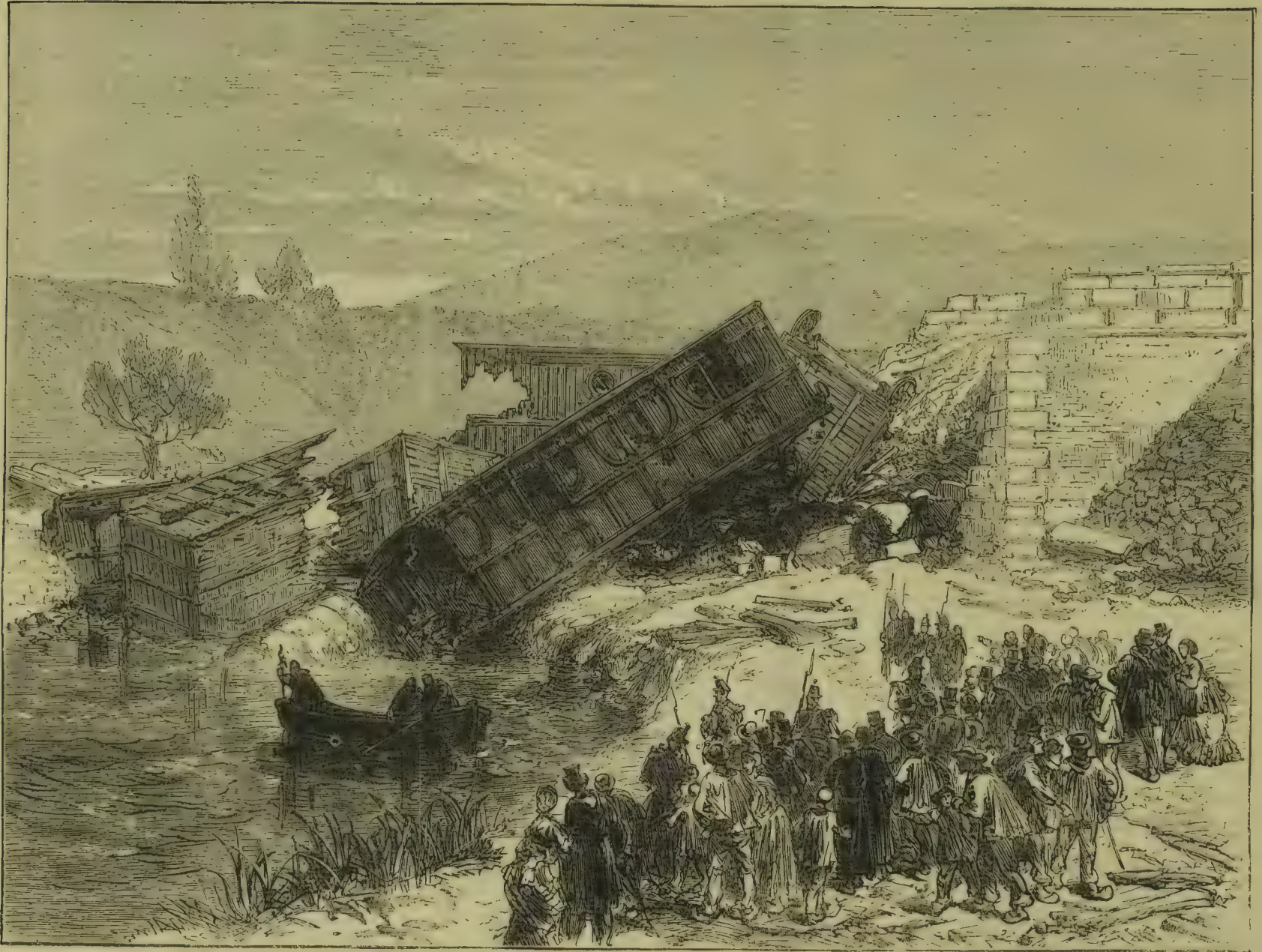
The Château of Nice, as most travelling Englishmen are aware, is situated on a steep hill or bluff of limestone rock, which rises abruptly to a height of 800 ft., a little to the west of the harbour. Along its base on the harbour side runs the Rue Emmanuel Philibert, parallel to the quay and separated from it by a row of three-storied houses, the ground floors of which are for the most part let out in small shops. About half-past four in the afternoon of the 25th ult. a man at work amongst some stones quarried from the side of the castle hill for the repair of the roads observed a movement among the rocks above, which caused him to raise an alarm. Some of the persons in the houses below had barely time to make their escape when thousands of tons of rock came thundering down. Of this fortunately but one fragment, and that not the largest, reached the street, totally demolishing the front of the house belonging to Madame Bandolin, and shaking the neighbouring buildings to their foundation. The size of this fragment of rock is upwards of 300 cubic yards, but only one corner of it penetrated beyond the line of houses. Had the stone given but one bound more, the total destruction of the whole block of buildings through to the quay would have been inevitable, causing a loss of life vastly greater than actually occurred. Three huge masses of rock, one of the estimated dimension of 500 cubic yards, with the accompanying debris, have completely blocked up the Rue Emmanuel Philibert, and a raised roadway leading to the château.

The sketch from which our Engraving is drawn was taken from the broken edge of the raised road on the seaward side. A very short time after the accident the civil and military authorities were on the spot, and the work of digging out the dead bodies commenced. A few were rescued alive, some of them unhurt. Five or six persons were got out the same evening, of whom one (an old lady of eighty-four) is since dead. Five others, all dead, were found next day. Altogether, fourteen or fifteen persons lost their lives by this disaster.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR CANNES.

The terrible accident on the railway that runs along the shore of the Mediterranean, parallel with the Corniche road, from Marseilles to Mentone, and thence on to the Riviera of Genoa, has excited the most painful feelings in the minds of all whose friends are sojourning in the south of France. The scene of the disaster is near the Cap d'Antibes, between Cannes and Nice, about seven miles from Cannes, and a mile and a half beyond the Antibes station. Here a mountain torrent, called La Brague, passes from north to south, under a railway bridge of three arches, constructed thus:—Two piers, 25 ft. apart, and 25 ft. from either bank, supported iron beams; the interval between the beams being covered by a strong wooden platform, on which rested the sleepers, chairs, and rails. The piers were built with hydraulic lime and fine gravel, with heavy blocks of limestone.

Unusually heavy rains had fallen between Friday, the 19th, and Wednesday, the 24th ult. Even at Cannes, in a sheltered position, 5½ in. fell between Tuesday morning, the 23rd, and Wednesday afternoon, the 24th. On the plain east of Antibes above 7 in. had fallen. The water stood 5 ft. deep even on the high road from Antibes to Nice, and at the railway embankment the water stood within 1 ft. of the rails. At the bridge over the Brague, which is built within sixty yards of the sea, the river, hugely swollen as it poured down from the mountains, and having encountered the sea-waves just below, was driven back with irresistible force. It filled the space up to the under side of the platform, and, lifting the bed of the rails, tore it from the pier and buttresses, and left a void of 25 ft. in length from the Nice end. The train from Paris had crossed the bridge a quarter before five o'clock on the Wednesday afternoon, the 24th. The passengers observed that the water was almost up to the rails, but no indication was then given of the insecurity of the bridge and platform. It was only within the last ten days that a man, placed to watch the dangerous point, had struck for an increase of wages, and no one had been appointed in his place. Thus an economy of a few francs led to this great disaster. Vence-Cagnes is only one mile distant, and the train which arrived there at 5.45 would have been stopped had the man remained at his post. A man going on foot from Antibes to Vence-Cagnes found the bridge of the high road impassable, and struggled through the water to the railway embankment, intending to walk along the line to his destination. To his horror, he found the bridge gone. It was then five o'clock. He rushed back to the Antibes station to give the alarm. The station-master, finding his telegraphic apparatus would not work, did all in his power to convey notice to Vence-Cagnes. The men he sent on the line had lights, and placed detonating balls on the rails. Besides these, he sent two men on horseback by the road. One got lost in the deep waters of the plain; the other struck northwards by a mountain road to the town of Biot, and thence descended to Vence-Cagnes. He arrived a few minutes after the Nice train had left Vence-Cagnes for Antibes and Cannes. Nothing more could be done. The inhabitants poured out from Antibes, reached the scene of destruction, and there remained standing, contenting themselves with screaming and shouting to warn the approaching train. But all such feeble efforts were ineffectual. The wind had risen, and while the roar of the waves mingled with the tumult of the rushing waters of the Brague, a blinding scud swept across the plain. The train reached the station of Vence-Cagnes a little before seven. On it rushed through darkness to death—the engineer, stoker, and guard with their heads muffled up to protect them from the storm. Suddenly the conductor, as he relates it, heard a cry. He raised his head, and the lights of lanterns showed him a crowd gazing into a gulf. The truth flashed upon him; he raised a cry, "Le pont de la Brague vient de s'écrouler!" put on the brakes, and then leaped into the rushing waters. Over went the train; the engine plunged headlong into the gulf, followed by the tender, the *fourgon*, and the rest of the carriages. A first-class carriage, checked in its course by the *fourgon*, reared up and fell towards the sea side of the bridge; the *coupé* was smashed, but the two compartments slid on their sides, and even their windows were not broken. Six or seven passengers struggled out, and after a severe bruising and a thorough drenching, saved themselves. A second-class carriage was carried out to sea, but floated back on the waves, and was left on the beach three hundred yards from the bridge. A lady was in this carriage, or clinging to the outside, as it floated out. She could not be seen, but her screams were heard. One carriage alone, the last, a first-class one, remained on the line, or partly resting on the top of a pile of the others in the river, which were rapidly broken up by the force of the waves on one side and the furious torrent on the other. It was an awful scene. Above the tumult rose the cries of agony, and the lanterns shone on a mass of struggling sufferers, while the fitful moon-gleams snowed the wrecks of carriages, with their passengers, swept out to sea. The number of passengers in the train is not known, or the railway officials will not tell it; but thirty or forty persons are believed to have perished. The work of dragging the river for dead bodies went on for several days.



RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT ANTIBES, NEAR CANNES: DRAGGING FOR THE DEAD.



FALL OF A ROCK AT NICE.



FRUIT-SELLERS GOING TO JERUSALEM.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

It may be semi-treason to say so, but to many minds the ceremonial of opening Parliament by Commission may be described as dreary when it is not grotesque. Of that event, on the opening day of the Session, nothing special is to be said except one thing—namely, that, as if to make complete the "mained rites," the Usher of the Black Rod, though splendid and glittering in blue and gold, stars and ribbons, was unhappily so lame that in his passage from the Lords to the Commons he had to lean on a stalwart subordinate official of the House, who landed the honourable gentleman safe within the portals of the Commons, and Black Rod managed to reach the table. But then came a special difficulty, and that was *revocare gradum*, inasmuch as he had to back out all along the floor to the bar with his face to Mr. Speaker—a feat which Sir Augustus Clifford generally performs with great exactitude and courtly grace. Recourse was obliged to be had again to the human supporter, by whose aid, rendered from behind, the dangerous passage was achieved safely, though not without one peril, and then the procession of the Commons of England went on its usual higgledy-piggledy way to receive from the delegates of her Majesty formal directions as to the course of the Session. At its head walked Mr. Speaker; and in the worn countenance, with its drooping expression, the languid and irregular step, the tent shoulders, and the general air of physical depression, were to be read, "writ plain," the reasons why the right hon. gentleman has felt it necessary to withdraw, under exceptional circumstances, from his high function as president of the popular estate of the realm, and from the status of First Commencer of England. And here it may as well be said as anywhere, that the deep emotion, the faltering, the hesitancy, which characterised and made pathetic the address in which the Speaker signified to the House his intention of retiring from the chair, indicated the struggle between desire and capacity for performance, and an unfeigned reluctance to leave the scene in which he had for so long formed the primary feature.

There was in the early appearance of the Commons something which indicated that members were returning from the recess refreshed and vigorous; for, from the first moments after noon, they began to throng in. At that time there stood conspicuous no less a personage than Sir Charles Dilke, who, doubtless with intention to show that, as an avowed Republican, he was above mere social conventionality, appeared as a representative of the people, though his honeymoon had waned but a week or so—thus showing that, though married, he could come, and was not to be tempted by anything to avoid facing his co-representatives without any delay. Around him gathered a knot of gentlemen who were evidently pleasantly "chaffing" him, and he, with good-humour beaming on his face, appeared to be carrying on a tongue-fence quite effectively. Note was taken that Mr. Brand received greetings from all sorts of members; that he bore himself peculiarly erect, as if he sought to add a cubit to his stature ere he assumed the Speakership, a function which for at least thirty years now has been traditionally associated with tall men of dignified presence; whereas the Speaker elect is, if anything, below the average height of men. There, too, might have been seen, receiving the grasps of many gratulating hands, Mr. Childers, looking upright in carriage, active in movement, and with a certain alacrity in his demeanour, but worn in countenance. He took a seat by the gangway on the third bench behind the Ministry, which, no doubt, so long as he is a member unattached, he will occupy by prescription. The leader of the Opposition did not show at the morning meeting, and the Prime Minister and most of the Ministers were absent; so that when the Commons went to the Lords they were led by Mr. Lowe (*absit omen*), who was appropriately enough supported by Mr. Ayrton.

At the meeting of the Lords in the evening there was no speciality. The movers and seconders of the Address "did their spitting gently," though neither Lord Delawarr nor Lord Powerscourt was deficient in good quality; while, as to the excellent and amiable Duke of Richmond, even if, as, contrary to his wonted mood, he, as leader of the Opposition, wished to be severely critical, the sight of his immediate opponent, Lord Granville, crippled with gout—and so far bearing a resemblance to the great Lord Chatham—moved him to be mild even to delicacy in what he had to say. The physical breakdown of Lord Granville operated obviously to shorten the debate, which Lord Derby did not do too much to prolong. In the mean time, the Commons had gathered thick, and Mr. Disraeli, looking—the word is used specifically—blooming, and Mr. Gladstone, with a countenance worn almost to haggardness, assumed their places at the head of their respective cohorts, and some sixty notices of bills and motions (ominous of the controversial character of the coming Session) having been disposed of, Mr. Strutt, in what may be called, by a figure, a suit of gorgeous armour, because of its effect in stiffening his person and demeanour, set in to move the Address. Whether it was the presence of his father, Lord Belper, who was looking down from the gallery, or the natural timidity of a Parliamentary neophyte, what is certain is that he made no effort to be surprising, and was not even vigorous; while he went methodically certainly, but mechanically, through the different topics of the Queen's Speech. As to Mr. Colman, who is a Nonconforming Radical, which means a good deal in these days, he had to deal with something akin to a false position in seconding the Address on behalf of the Government, but he slid through any difficulty he may have felt tactically; and, possessing a clear, pleasant voice, and a quiet though assured manner, his speech, if not exactly pungent, was quite equal to the occasion, and so far he was a success. In regard to Mr. Disraeli's speech, it may be said that it was an average specimen of his *impromptu fait à loisir*; everything, even the gibes and jokes and the indignation, fitted accurately into their places, and it had every merit except that of spontaneity. The tone and temper in which Mr. Gladstone spoke were happy, and for its purposes his speech was not only adequate, but one of his very good efforts. The synchronism between his coming to a close and the hour of dinner operated to cut the debate off short, no influence being exercised by a whine from Mr. O'Reilly and a growl from Sir John Gray about the putting of Ireland practically out of the Queen's Speech.

It is supposed by many that the present Session will be an abnormal one, and certainly it was an abnormal circumstance that the report on the Address should produce a long and important debate, and that on a Wednesday morning. This event was due to the rude interference of Mr. Bernal Osborne, who, in his worst style—that which makes the unthinking laugh and the judicious grieve—set in to insult and be offensive to everyone he could think of, even his jokes not tempering his more serious denunciations, inasmuch as they were compounded of insolent personal sarcasms. However, there are few evils even out of which some good may not be extracted; and Mr. Osborne was the perhaps unconscious and unintentional means of eliciting from the House in general a unanimous opinion on the vexed question of the Washington Treaty in its present phase, which was something.

PARLIAMENT.

The fourth Session of the present Parliament was opened, on Tuesday, by Commission. The Royal Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Ripon, Viscount Halifax, Viscount Sydney, and Lord Bessborough. The Queen's Speech (given in another column) was read by the Lord Chancellor. An Address, in reply, was adopted by both Houses, no amendment being moved.

In the House of Lords the Address, which was, as usual, an echo of the Royal Speech, was moved by Earl Delawarr, and seconded by Viscount Powerscourt. The Duke of Richmond, Earl Granville, and Lord Derby took part in the short debate which followed. The discussion turned mainly upon the Alabama question, and all these noble Lords agreed that there was no foundation or justification for the claims recently put forward by the United States.

In the House of Commons, after several notices of motion had been given, Mr. Strutt proposed, and Mr. Colman seconded, the Address to the Crown. The formal business of moving and seconding the Address having been disposed of, Mr. Disraeli rose to comment upon the Speech delivered from the throne and the general attitude of affairs. A ready cheer from his friends rewarded his reference to the new system under which her Majesty's Government had devoted the regess to the vindication of their character, and had made of the last six months "a blaze of apology." After a humorous allusion to the special connection which seemed to be established in the Speech between the affairs of Ireland and the Ballot Bill, the right hon. gentleman denounced the last-named measure, and then passed on to the most important part of his speech—that which referred to our relations with the United States of America. Upon this subject he objected that the paragraphs in the Royal Speech were inadequate and unsatisfactory; and, while claiming that he had throughout the American War preserved an attitude of perfect neutrality, asserted that the claims now made by the United States were unjustifiable. At the same time he asserted the complete responsibility of the Government for what had been done, and objected in the most decided manner to their throwing any part of their liability upon the negotiators, and this position was distinctly cheered by Mr. Gladstone. He had, as he stated, always objected to some parts of the treaty, especially that dealing *ex post facto* with the law of nations; but, under the advice of Lord Derby and Lord Cairns, had abstained from any Parliamentary action in regard to it. The debate upon Lord Russell's motion in the House of Lords gave the Americans fair notice of our construction of the Treaty of Washington; and he asked whether there was any secret article which justified the statements then made by our Ministers; and whether any communications passed between the two Governments upon our construction of the treaty. When, too, he asked, were—to quote the language of a cool and deliberate man like Lord Derby—these preposterous claims first advanced, and when did the Government make their "friendly communication" to the United States. The right hon. gentleman recommended the House of Commons to take a forbearing but firm view of the whole question—a suggestion which appeared to meet with general approval; and closed with a reference to the recent illness of the Prince of Wales, and the gratitude with which the whole nation had received the accounts of his recovery. Mr. Gladstone, taking first the last topic touched upon by the chief of the Opposition, expressed his regret that the Queen was not yet quite free from the effects of her late attack of indisposition, and referred to the illness of the Prince of Wales as a great political fact, showing what were the real feelings of the nation as to the great central institutions of the country. As to the American Treaty, he admitted entirely the responsibility of the Government, and maintained that, by reference not only to its terms, but to those of the protocols, it could be shown that any rational or grammatical construction of its terms excluded the claims for indirect damages now made against us. The Americans had certainly never made any protest against the interpretation put upon the treaty in the House of Lords. The American case was only received here a month ago, and the friendly communication referred to in the Royal Speech was made last Saturday. As to the exact nature of this communication the Prime Minister said nothing; but he had previously intimated that, in order to preserve friendly relations with the United States, the Government would stretch to the uttermost all considerations except those which affected the national honour or the national safety, and this declaration was received with cheers from most parts of the House.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Mr. Speaker Denison announced his retirement from the high office which he has held since 1857; and Mr. Gladstone acknowledged, in fitting terms, the services which the right hon. gentleman has rendered to the House and the country. Mr. Disraeli was absent, but Sir John Pakington added his testimony to the dignity and efficiency with which the Speaker has filled the chair. Mr. Strutt brought up the reply to the Address. Mr. Bernal Osborne led off a long discussion on questions touched upon in the Royal Speech. The hon. member attacked the policy of the Government in regard to the Franco-German War and the Washington Treaty, and said that the gentlemen amateurs who went to the United States had been "done" by the astute lawyers who were employed by Mr. Fish. A practising attorney would have drawn up a binding treaty, and not such a bungling document as Lord Ripon and his colleagues had signed. The hon. member seems to have suggested the payment of a lump sum in discharge of the direct claims. A few years ago the United States would have taken £6,000,000 sterling; but what would they take now? Mr. Horsman condemned the despotic and irresponsible power by which Ministers made treaties without the knowledge of Parliament. Mr. Otway urged that the Government should be supported if they decided to resist the American claims. Mr. Gladstone closed the debate. On the question of Irish education, he ironically remarked that if there should be sufficient time remaining after all the other measures referred to in the Queen's Speech had been disposed of, Government would be willing to consider that subject. Adverting to the arguments which had been brought forward against secret diplomacy, he pointed out that the example which was set in July, 1870, when the Corps Législatif was taken into the counsels of the Cabinet, was not a good omen for those who were opposed to secrecy. The American case was next referred to. The Premier quoted a passage from one of the Washington protocols, which he held to be conclusive that in March last the United States had abandoned their claims for indirect losses in consideration of obtaining the amicable settlement which was arrived at in the Treaty. A few observations on the cotton loan claims brought the speech to a close. Mr. Bruce was asked to state the nature of his Licensing Bill, and in reply he said that it would be as stringent and effective as that which failed last year, but would at the same time avoid the rocks which had stopped the progress of that measure. A great number of bills were brought in and read the first time.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, on the motion of Earl Stanhope, copies of the correspondence which had taken place between the Chief Justices of the Courts of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas and the Heads of the Government

respecting the recent appointment of Sir R. Collier were ordered. At the instance of Earl Granville, it was agreed that a Select Committee be appointed to consider what means should be adopted for the attendance of their Lordships' House at the proposed Thanksgiving ceremony, in St. Paul's Cathedral, on the 27th inst.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, the Speaker ruled that it was not competent for Mr. Milbank to put the question of which he had given notice—namely, to ask Sir C. Dilke to explain to the House "the subjects of the speeches delivered by him at Newcastle and other towns." The motion of which Mr. Cross gave notice respecting the appointment of Sir R. Collier as a paid member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was fixed for Monday next. Mr. Gladstone having passed a high eulogium upon the merits of the Speaker, moved a resolution in accordance with it, as also the following:—"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying her Majesty that she will be most graciously pleased to confer some signal mark of her Royal favour upon the Right Hon. John Evelyn Denison, Speaker of this House, for his great and eminent services performed to his country during the important period in which he has, with such distinguished ability and integrity, presided in the chair of this House." Mr. Disraeli seconded the resolutions in a speech alike complimentary to the right hon. gentleman. The resolutions were carried nem. con., amid the general cheers of the House. The Speaker, who appeared to be much affected, expressed his most grateful acknowledgments. Mr. W. E. Forster then obtained leave to introduce the Ballot Bill. It was similar to the measure of last year, except that it was now divided into two bills, one relating exclusively to the principle of secret voting, the other having reference to corrupt practices. The latter bill was subsequently brought in by the Attorney-General, after obtaining leave. Both bills were read the first time.

JERUSALEM FRUIT-CARRIERS.

The country around Jerusalem, viewed from the Mount of Olives, seems a dreary landscape of barren hills and rocks, intersected by dry ravines; but there are some green and fertile spots, though almost hidden from sight, in the hollows where the water-springs have infused a milder and more genial nature into the relenting soil of old Judea. It is certain that this very district was anciently blessed with an abundant growth of all that the earth can yield in that fine climate to furnish human enjoyment. The names of the towns and villages—such as Bethany, which means the house of dates; Bethphage, the house of figs; Jericho, the city of palms; and Kirjath-Jearim, the town of groves, called by the Arabs now Kuriet-el-Enab, or the town of grapes—attest the former praises of the land. At Ramleh, between Jerusalem and the sea, the verdure of the fields, diversified with flowers of every hue, is described as a charming scene, at least in the season of spring. The neighbourhood of Solomon's Pools, on the south-east side of Jerusalem, with Wady Urtas, the supposed site of his gardens of Etham, is a spot not less attractive. The winter at Jerusalem is so mild that, in places sheltered by the rocks, as here, the oranges, dates, lemons, citrons, pomegranates, almonds, peaches, apricots, and other fruit-bearing plants require no screen or covering. The olive and the mulberry still grow on the Mount of Olives. The sycamore-fig, the prickly pear, the apple, the quince, and the plum, as well as the vine, which might by skilful culture yield excellent wine, are found to thrive as they did of yore. A little book called "Environs of Jerusalem," by the Rev. Dr. W. K. Tweedie (publishers, Messrs. T. Nelson and Sons), gives us this favourable account of the natural conditions or capabilities of the district to which belongs the subject of one of our illustrations. The train of fruit-sellers travelling from the country to Jerusalem, conducting their asses laden with a delicious cargo, was sketched by our Artist on the spot. It cannot differ much from what might have been seen there 1800 or 1900 years ago; for the costumes and manners of the people in Syria have undergone less change than the political and religious state of that country, since the time of Herod and Pilate.

Lord Lawrence has resigned, on account of ill-health, the chairmanship of the London School Board, and Professor Huxley has resigned his seat.

The Rev. Canon Kingsley has accepted the presidency of the Midland Institute. The office was tendered to the Right Hon. Robert Lowe; but his duties as Chancellor of the Exchequer prevented his acceptance of the post.

The New Testament Company of Revisers concluded, yesterday week, their sixteenth session, of four days, each of seven hours. The revision has now reached the eighth chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke.

In the remarks which accompanied our engraving of Mr. Calthorpe's picture of "Charles Surface Selling the Family Pictures," we omitted to mention that the picture is the property of Mr. G. Hamilton Fletcher, of Birkenhead.

A display of aurora borealis—one of the most magnificent witnessed in this latitude for many years—was seen throughout England on Sunday night; indeed, it was visible over the whole of Europe, and also in the north of Africa.

The French authorities having passed Communists who were sentenced to expulsion from France on to Swiss territory, the Federal Council has instructed the Swiss representative at Versailles to protest against such a proceeding as being an infraction of the law of nations.

The Manx Legislature has passed an education bill, with a conscience clause and a time-table arrangement providing for children being withdrawn from religious instruction and Bible reading, and taught secular knowledge, while others are studying sacred literature. Pensions for old schoolmasters are provided. The bill is to come into operation on April 1, and, to provide for education this year, £2300 has been voted from the Manx Customs Revenue.

A bronze statue of George Kinloch was unveiled last Saturday in Dundee. The statue is by John Steell, of Edinburgh, and has cost nearly £1000. The pedestal bears the following inscription:—"Geo. Kinloch, of Kinloch; outlawed for the advocacy of public rights, 22d December, 1819; proclaimed member for Dundee in the first reformed Parliament, Dec. 22, 1832; born in Dundee, 1775; died in London, 1833. Erected by public subscription to commemorate a signal triumph of political justice."

The National Life-Boat Institution has forwarded three fine new life-boats to the coast—one to Sunderland, another to Tyne-mouth, and a third to Howth, in Dublin Bay. The Sunderland boat was presented to the institution by Mrs. Eliza Foulston, a lady residing at South Kensington, in memory of her late husband, after whom the boat is named the John Foulston. The Tyne-mouth life-boat is named the Forester, after the Ancient Order of Foresters, who have presented two life-boats to the society. The Howth boat is named the Clara Baker, and was presented to the National Institution by a friend of Miss Baker.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The appearance of the weights for the spring handicaps is the first sign of the break up of the dead season; and the contemplation of these, together with a visit to Liverpool and Althorp, will help the professional followers of the Turf to beguile the time until the first saddling bell rings again. At the time of writing the acceptances for the Lincoln Handicap, City and Suburban, and Great Metropolitan have not appeared; so we will deal with them next week, and at present only allude to the Chester Cup. Mr. Topham has been as fortunate in this as in his Grand National handicap, for out of 103 subscribers thirty-five only have paid forfeit, and even of this small number two or three were entered without the knowledge of their owners. Sterling (9 st. 3 lb.) heads the list, and, remembering his marvellous performance under 8 st. 11 lb. in the Cambridge-shire, there seems no reason why he should not figure as prominently as did Knight of the Garter and Mortemer. Cardinal York (8 st. 12 lb.), Hawthornden (8 st. 8 lb.), and Paganini (8 st. 6 lb.) are a distinguished trio of old ones, and then comes Shannon (8 st. 3 lb.), who, after the hollow beating which Sterling gave her at Newmarket last autumn, cannot have much chance, though she will meet him on 8 lb. better terms. Taraban (7 st. 10 lb.) is very slow for the peculiar Roodee course; but Christopher Sly (7 st. 10 lb.) has got off somewhat easily, after the brilliant style in which he defeated Sornette and a capital field in the Gold Vase at Ascot. Border Knight (7 st. 5 lb.) has also a very taking appearance, and Hobart (7 st. 2 lb.) cannot complain of being overweighted. Whinyard (7 st. 2 lb.) has not yet left the flat, though we are likely to see him performing across country before the end of his career; and that famous impostor Noyre Tauren (7 st.) appears content with his weight. The distance is probably too far for Soucar (7 st.), and Bicycle (6 st. 8 lb.) has lost all her early excellence. The double winner, Dalby (6 st. 8 lb.), has another chance given him; and Yorkshire Relish (5 st. 9 lb.), the best of the very moderate lot of three-year-olds engaged, could scarcely have received more lenient treatment.

Coursing men are taking full advantage of the present wonderfully open weather, and several meetings were brought off, last week, in various parts of the country. There seems, however, a general feeling that we shall not escape much longer without frost, and it appears by no means improbable that the great Waterloo fixture may suffer from this cause. Contango and Babety, two of the Cashier—Bab-at-the-Bowster litter, appeared again at the Ridgway Club (Lytham) meeting, and ran uncommonly well. The former won three courses of the North and South Lancashire Stakes before she was put out by Kitty Stables, a result mainly due to bad luck, as she was very hard run in her previous courses. Kitty Stables went down in the next round, and the final course was left to Claverhouse by Cauld Kail—Cera, and Belle Vue by Peeping Tom—My Mary, which divided after one undecided. The Clifton Cup secured a capital entry, including Sea Cove, the winner of the Waterloo Cup in 1870. She, as usual, did not get through a single course, though she afterwards divided a minor stake. Babety performed uncommonly well, displaying all that wonderful cleverness with her game for which Bab-at-the-Bowster was so famous; and it is a great pity that she just lacks the turn of speed indispensable to a greyhound of the highest class. Some of her courses were very long and punishing—indeed, in the fourth round she could only dispose of Lady Morgan at the “third time of asking;” so it was wise policy of her owner to make an arrangement with Mr. Legh by which she divided with Latest News. The latter ran very well throughout; and, as Letter T is reported to be much superior to her, she is likely to distinguish herself at Althorp. It will be remembered that last year she won three courses in the Waterloo Cup in grand style, but was put out in a most unfortunate spin with Master M’Grath, in which a very weak hare continually favoured the Irish dog. There is a considerable amount of betting on the Waterloo Cup, which commences on the 21st of this month. Mr. Eltringham is decidedly the first favourite, and it is generally understood that he will run Peasant Boy.

The second great football-match between England and Scotland, or rather between two twenties selected from players using Rugby rules, came off, at Kennington Oval, on Monday last. It attracted a very large muster of spectators, including many ladies, who seemed to take the greatest interest in the proceedings. Numerous trial-matches had taken place in order to assist the captains—F. Stokes (England) and F. Moncreiff (Scotland)—to select the strongest possible teams, and the result seemed thoroughly satisfactory. The Scotchmen were much lighter than their opponents, but played with such fire and dash that within twenty minutes of commencing play they were enabled to secure a goal. Then, however, the great weight of the English team began to tell, and for the remainder of the contest the ball was generally close to the Scotch goal, which fell twice to kicks by Isherwood and Freeman. The northerners were unable to obtain any further advantage, and at the termination of the game England had secured a well-earned victory by two goals and two “ties” against one goal. The play on both sides was thoroughly good throughout, but, perhaps, I. E. Bentley and S. Finney for England, and F. Moncreiff, J. E. Finlay, and C. Cathcart for Scotland, deserve especial mention.

The salmon-fishing season in English waters opened yesterday week. The flooded state of the rivers has been most favourable for the ascent of fish up stream.

Mr. Dickens has been succeeded as secretary of the Customs by Mr. Hale, the late assistant secretary; and Mr. John Smith has been promoted to the assistant secretaryship.

We understand that Mr. Edward Henry Vizetelly, late special correspondent of the *Daily News* in Algeria, is engaged in writing a work on that country for Messrs. Macmillan.

At a public meeting held in Glasgow, on Wednesday, it was resolved to establish a technical college in that city, and to raise £50,000 to carry out the purposes of the institution.

On Tuesday the Warrington Town Council resolved to purchase Bank Hall and its grounds from Colonel Wilson-Patten, M.P., for the sum of £22,000. It is intended to convert the hall into a townhall, police station, fire-engine station, &c., and the grounds into a public park. The total cost is estimated at £50,000.

A meeting took place at Portsmouth, on Monday, at which it was resolved to memorialise the Secretary for War to allow a volunteer review to be held in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth on Easter Monday. It was estimated that about 10,000 men from Hampshire and the neighbouring counties might be expected to take part in the manoeuvres.

Miss Marsh appeals for funds, still urgently needed, for the Convalescent Hospital, Blackrock, Brighton. They will be received, as usual, at Beckenham Rectory, Kent, and at Messrs. Drummond’s bank, Charing-cross. She will be thankful also for ladies’ work, paintings, &c., for a bazaar, which will be held in the course of the spring, in aid of this hospital and of the Orphan Home at Beckenham.

ST. CLEMENT’S BASILICA, ROME.

To the religious pilgrim, the scholar, the antiquary, or the artist who visits Rome, one of the most interesting places is the Basilica of St. Clement, with its subterranean excavations, revealing a former Basilica, and what is supposed to have been the actual house or oratory of St. Clement the Martyr. Including this most ancient subterranean apartment, St. Clement’s now presents to view three churches, each beneath the other; such is the vast accumulation of debris which Time has cast over the original surface of Rome.

St. Clement is supposed to have been of noble family, or nearly connected with the Imperial house. It appears from the history of this saint that he was converted and baptised by St. Peter, and was ordained a Deacon to assist in the Apostolic ministrations. He was transported to Cherson, in the Crimea, where, with two thousand Christians, banished like himself, he had to work in the quarries not far from Sebastopol. For persisting in his religion he was thrown into the sea, with an anchor about his neck. But every year, it is said, the waters of the Pontus Euxinus retired for seven days, so that the faithful could visit a shrine in which was the martyr’s body. St. Cyril, who preached and converted many nations in the region of the Black Sea, visited the place, and brought back to Rome the relics, which were placed in the Vatican, and one of the frescoes lately discovered represents the transfer of them to the Church of St. Clement. The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of July 21, 1869, gives a view of the rock-cut church of Inkerman, dedicated to St. Clement. There are four other churches dedicated to him in what is called the “City of Caverns,” at Inkermann; and the quarries there are supposed to be those in which he and other Christians, banished from their homes, were compelled to labour.

The modern Basilica of St. Clement is a church that must be so called to distinguish it from the older one below, and not because it is new; for it is at least 600 or 700 years since it was built over its buried predecessor. The Basilica churches of Rome are entirely different in construction from the churches of Northern Europe. It is supposed that the Christians, when they grew strong and emerged from the catacombs, as the heathen religion declined, began to use the existing buildings for their places of worship. The old Roman halls of justice were called Basilicas, or Royal halls, where the Emperor, or the Prætor or deputy of the supreme power, sat and administered law. These buildings were oblong, with an apse at one end and a platform raised a few steps. In this apse was the seat of the ruler or judge. In a great Basilica there would be rows of columns all the way down, dividing the hall into what is now in our churches called a nave, and one or two side aisles. The plan of the later St. Clement’s Church shows this exactly, only we have to suppose the chapels at each of the four corners removed, and the choir in its centre also removed. Then we have the original Basilica.

Almost every church in Rome is more or less founded on this original form of arrangement. In St. Peter’s, however, all trace of the Roman Basilica is gone, yet it is called the Basilica of St. Peter, telling us that the pre-existing churches had followed the primitive model. The seat of the judge under the apse became the episcopal chair. It was originally of stone or marble, and this material is often still retained, a very quaint old one existing in St. Clement’s. Its round-topped back is seen, in our view of the interior, beyond the candlesticks on the altar. It looks as if made from a fragment of white Grecian marble, and the word “Martyr” seems from its position not to have been cut since the chair assumed its present form. The space under the apse was called the presbytery: here, on the seats around, sat the priests. To the old Roman Basilica the Christians added the altar. This was placed where the steps led from the body of the hall up to the raised platform. Hence the curious arrangement, different from that elsewhere, by which the officiating priest celebrated on the side next the apse, and consequently looked over the altar to the congregation. On what we are accustomed to call the front of the altar, in St. Clement’s, we have the name of the martyr; and, still lower down, a slab of pierced marble, through which we can look into the shrine containing the relics of the saint, which were placed right under the altar. In St. Clement’s the ciborium, or baldachin, is of white marble, and of the old quaint style before the Renaissance fashion.

The Christians made another great change from the old Basilica, by inclosing a space in the centre of the nave for the choir. A person familiar only with Gothic churches, arriving at Rome, and entering one of these older Basilica churches, with the altar turned another way, and the walled-in space, like a pen for sheep, in the body of the building, would feel some doubt whether it was or not a place of Christian worship. It is not certainly known why the early Christians adopted this arrangement; but it resembles the “Amud” of a Jewish synagogue, where the service is read. The two ambones, or pulpits, are placed on each side of the choir. The Gospel ambo has at one side a beautiful spiral candlestick, in mosaic, for the Paschal candle. There is another ambo, but lower, on the women’s side, to the north, with two marble desks, of which one is for the subdeacon to read the epistle, facing the altar, and the other is for the cantor to sing the responses. These ambones are very beautifully enriched with inlaid mosaic, in geometric patterns, harmonising with a similar kind of inlaying in the pavement, which is called “Opus Alexandrinum.”

The roof of the apse and the spandrels on each side are in mosaic, and must be as old as the church. The lower portion is a blue ground, with a Lamb in the centre representing Christ, and six on each side for the twelve apostles. Higher up is the Crucifixion, on a black cross, with twelve white doves on it. On each side of the cross are figures—one of the Virgin, the other of St. John. Below the cross are the four rivers of Paradise, with deer, pelicans, peacocks, and fishes. The Almighty Hand is in a circle over the cross. The symbolical beasts of the four Evangelists, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, St. Peter, St. Paul, and other figures, with ornaments, in which the vine figures largely, on gold mosaic ground, give a rich and antique look to the whole of this singular church. The figures, full-length, of Christ and the twelve Apostles beneath the cornice, are in modern fresco, and are unimportant. There are sixteen antique columns separating the nave from the aisles. Five are of Parian, and of these four are fluted and one plain. Five others are of Numidian marble, three of granitello, two of Oriental granite, and one of bigio. The following translation of an inscription in Latin tells something of the importance of this old place:—

“This very ancient church, which, almost alone unconquered by the damages of time, yet preserves the form of the old Basilicas of the city, built upon the very spot, and erected to a title of Cardinal Priest of the Holy Roman Church, where the paternal house of St. Clement, Pope and martyr, is believed to have been; graced by St. Gregory the Great with two homilies delivered here, and the holy station of Lent. The Supreme Pontiff Clement XI., elected to the government of the Catholic Church on the very day of the anniversary celebration of the same Clement, in token of his particular devotion to him, restored and ornamented it, in the year of salvation 1715, of his Pontificate the fifteenth.”

Another Latin inscription records a visit by Pío IX. to see the recent discoveries of Father Mullooly; and another inscription records that “Albertus Edwardus Wallie Princeps” visited the church in 1859. The Chapel of the Crucifixion is one of the most important monuments of mediæval art in Rome. It is covered with frescoes, in good condition, by Masaccio, or Tommaso Guidi, which belong to the early part of the fifteenth century. In front of the church is a courtyard, or atrium, with a fountain of water, which is described as where “the faithful used to wash their hands before entering the church.” This is a very interesting point, as indicating that the early Church preserved that thoroughly Oriental practice.

We shall give some more Illustrations next week. Meantime, whoever desires further details is recommended to study them in the Rev. J. Mullooly’s work, “St. Clement, Pope and Martyr, and his Basilica in Rome,” which is illustrated with plans and photographs of most of the frescoes. Father Mullooly is Prior of the Irish Dominicans at Rome, to whom the church and convent belong; and great credit is due to him for the zeal with which he has conducted the excavations and the antiquarian investigations at this place.

NEW TOWNHALL AT LARNE.

The small town of Larne, situated on the shore of an inlet of the sea, eighteen miles north of Belfast, in the county of Antrim, was lately endowed with a new Townhall, built at the sole cost of Mr. Charles M’Garel, of Magheramorne. The style of architecture is Gothic, of a French character, the details being simple but effective. The building comprises the assembly-room, public reading-room, library and museum, board-rooms, kitchen, and caretakers’ apartments. The assembly-room is 60 ft. long by 26 ft. wide, having platform and balcony, with kitchen and serving-room and pantries, for public dinners; also ladies’ and gentlemen’s retiring-rooms. The public reading-room is 30 ft. by 24 ft., over which is the library and museum, of the same size, with curator’s apartments attached. The tower is 14 ft. by 12 ft. 6 in., and rises to a height of 90 ft., terminating with a wrought-iron vane. Between the reading-room and assembly-room is the principal staircase, leading to the museum and balcony. The architect of the building was Mr. Alexander Tate, County Surveyor. Messrs. Stewart and Co., Belfast, were the contractors.

ABERGAVENNY MARKET HALL.

The town of Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire, is delightfully placed on the banks of the Usk, in a grand amphitheatre of mountains. It abounds in historical associations of high interest, having been the Roman station of Gobannium, and a great Norman fortress. It was captured by the Welsh Prince Owen Glendower, and Charles I. stayed at the castle here, in the time of the Civil Wars. The name of this place is derived from the small river Cavenny, which here joins the Usk. It gives an Earl’s title to Viscount Neville, owner of the castle. The town is now governed by a board of commissioners, elected under its special Act of 1854, since which many improvements have been made. One of these is the erection of the new market buildings, costing about £12,000. They were designed by Messrs. Wilson and Wilcox, architects, of Bath. They comprise a most commodious and spacious fruit and poultry market, the main entrance to which is by a gateway in the centre of the imposing structure, which faces the street. On the ground floor are several fine shops; on the upper floor is an assembly-room capable of seating above 600 people. For simple elegance and for convenience of hearing the assembly-room of Abergavenny is scarcely to be surpassed by any other in this part of the kingdom.

PARIS AND THE NEW TAXES.

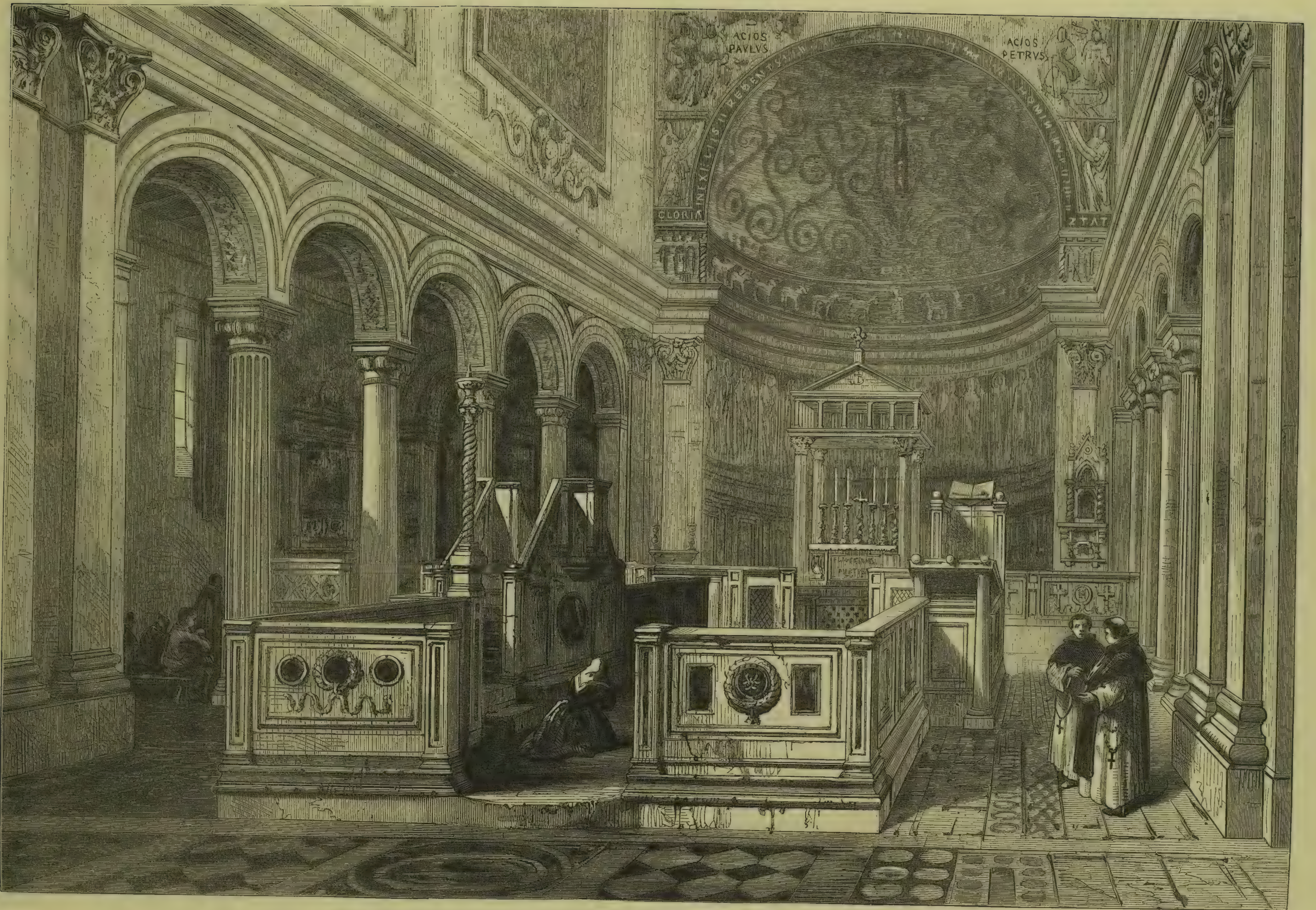
The National Assembly of France, being composed in great part of provincial landowners, does not seem to possess the full confidence of those classes of the French people who dwell in Paris and the other large towns, and whose subsistence depends on the trading and manufacturing interests. The financial needs of M. Thiers’s Government, which could not be wholly supplied by the raising of fresh loans or issue of paper money, have obliged the deputies at Versailles, since the beginning of this year, to consider several propositions, both of direct and indirect taxation, which seemed to bear very hard on the commercial and industrial part of the nation. This appearance of studied unfairness may have been enhanced by the effect of a theoretical division of the entire fiscal system of France into the *impôt foncier*, or taxation of real estate, and the *impôt mobilier*, or taxation of personal property. In the view of M. Thiers, the incomes derived from rents of lands or houses should not be made liable to income tax, like the profits of business, the dividends on stocks or shares, or salaries of employments and professional fees. He has contended that the *impôt foncier* already constitutes a sufficient burden on real property, and that the special charges laid upon it, to provide for the recent expenses and losses of the country, were equivalent to the payment of income tax exclusively by the revenue from other sources, personal property, trade, and industry. But it was difficult to reconcile this argument with the augmentation, at the same time, of many taxes on articles of ordinary consumption, such as sugar, coffee, and oil, as well as on the materials and products of some French manufactures. These imposts were at once regarded as special burdens laid upon the town population, which more than counterbalanced the charges on landed property; and the injustice of M. Thiers’s policy was manifest to the eyes of Parisian *bourgeoisie*. The official placards in the streets of the capital, announcing the imposition of the new taxes, were consequently read with many expressions of discontent; and a sketch by our Artist in Paris, showing the attitude of some townspeople engaged in discussing this unpleasant theme, may help to illustrate their present mood and temper.

The secretaryship to the Chaplain-General of the Forces, a new post, has been conferred on Mr. A. Liddell, a clerk in the War Office, son of the Rector of St. Paul’s, Knightsbridge.

By an Order in Council, March 31 is fixed as the day after which all jurisdiction over the appointment of officers, &c., to the militia, yeomanry, and volunteers, now exercised by lords lieutenant, is to cease under the Act of last Session.

The marble statue of the late Lord Farnham, erected by his tenantry at Cavan, is the work of Mr. Samuel Ferris Lynn, of Buckingham Palace-road, London. This sculptor is a brother of Mr. Lynn, the architect, of Belfast.

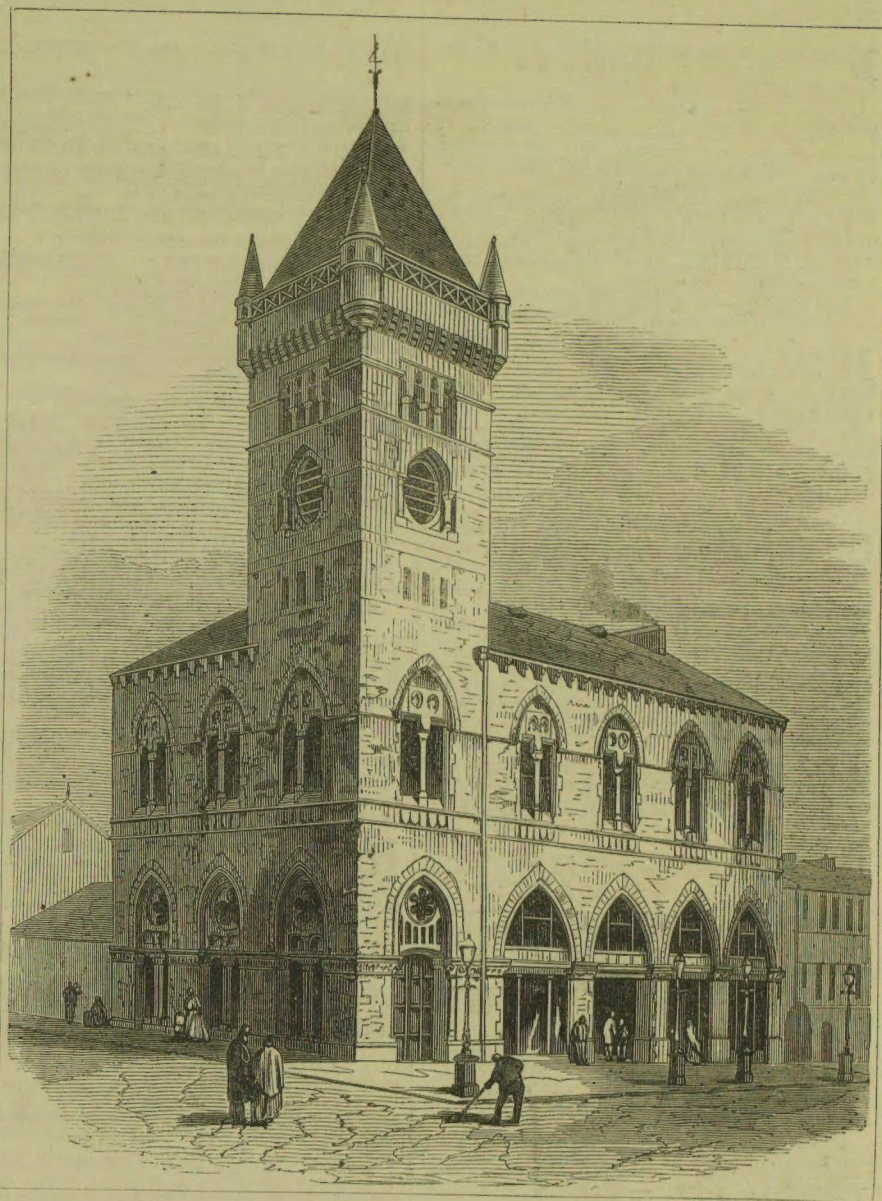
The Judicial Committee passed sentence, on Wednesday, upon the Rev. John Purchas, who has refused to obey the order of the Committee to discontinue the Ritualistic practices which were charged against him. The defendant did not appear. He was ordered to be suspended from office for one year, and a sequestration was issued on his property for the payment of the costs of the suit.



SKETCHES IN ROME: BASILICA OF ST. CLEMENT.



TOWN HALL AT LARNE, IRELAND.



MARKET AND HALL, ABERGAVENNY.



PARISIANS READING NOTICES OF THE NEW TAXES.

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